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June 12, 1997, Thursday

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JUNE 12, 1997

Elapsed Time 00:00, Eastern Time 13:16

SPEAKERS: MICHAEL MCCURRY, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY JOSEPH LOCKHART, WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN SYLVIA MATHEWS, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, WHITE HOUSE OPERATIONS MARIA ECHAVESTE, DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE PUBLIC LIAISON OFFICE

LOCKHART: Good afternoon, everyone. Before Mike comes out, we wanted to spend a few minutes to talk about the president's initiative on race, which he will give a speech in San Diego on Saturday, as you all know. I'm going to invite a couple of people who have worked very hard, long and hard, and done excellent work on this process.

Deputy chief of staff Sylvia Mathews has led the process working with Maria Echaveste, the director of the Office of Public Liaison. Sylvia will walk you through who's on the board and how we went about setting up the board, the goals of the initiative and also some of the elements of the initiative. So with that -- but one other note. Yes, we'll have -- the paper is being Xeroxed right now. It'll be, when we're done, available in the bins.

On one logistical note, as we've told you, the advisory board will be here tomorrow. And Beverly Barnes, who most of you know, who works with the chief of staff Erskine Bowles, will be handling the inquiries for the board, because I know a lot of you will be interested in talking to them. So if you want to get in touch with a board members, you know, over the next few days, then work through Beverly.

QUESTION: Are they meeting here tomorrow?

Elapsed Time 00:01, Eastern Time 13:17

LOCKART: They are travelling out to San Diego with the president. And there's -- this is a get together tomorrow.

QUESTION: What time is it (OFF-MIKE)?

LOCKHART: It's late in the afternoon. I think...

(UNKNOWN): I think it will be at 4:30.

LOCKHART: Four-thirty? Yes.

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE) on the charter, and the...

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LOCKHART: Yes.

QUESTION: Will there be a readout here, or will there be put off -- what's the logistical...

LOCKHART: I believe we'll just -- we'll do a pool spray at the top of the meeting and do something here. And then I'll be on the plane going out to San Diego.

QUESTION: What about those of us -- somebody else is going on the plane, but somebody's writing...

LOCKHART: Right.

QUESTION: ... the story here because it's awfully late by the time you've got there. Can there be a readout...

LOCKHART: Yes, well, yes. Yes. We'll try to do some sort of readout here.

QUESTION: Just for those of us who are covering the news and then also be on the charter, is it possible to delay the charter?

LOCKHART: Well, let me go and look at that, Wolf. I'll see.

QUESTION: Well, why does the charter have to leave so early?

LOCKHART: Well, let me -- I'll go back and look at it, OK?

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE)?

LOCKHART: I will, OK?

With that, Sylvia Mathews.

Elapsed Time 00:02, Eastern Time 13:18

MATHEWS: Thank you. The first thing I wanted to spend just a minute on the goals and methods of the president's initiative and review that, and then talk about the elements of the initiative, and then share with you the members of the president's advisory board.

I'm happy to do it that way, if you all would prefer.

The president's advisory board, which is -- it has a seven-person membership -- is going to be structured to advise him over the period of the year-long period for the initiative.

And the chairman of the board will be John Hope Franklin (ph) of Durham, North Carolina, who I'm sure many of you are familiar with -- a retired historian and educator.

William F. Winner (ph) of Jackson, Mississippi -- Governor Winner was former governor of Mississippi and has served in a number of capacities, both inside and out of government and in his -- in a law practice right now.

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Linda Chavez-Thompson (ph) of Washington, D.C.. I think many of you know her.

Elapsed Time 00:03, Eastern Time 13:19

She is the executive vice president with the AFL-CIO.

Robert Thomas of Coto Decoza (ph), California. Mr. Thomas is the president and CEO of Nissan, USA.

Angela Oh of Sirenas (ph), California. Angela -- Ms. Oh is a practicing lawyer in L.A. right now. She is also a person who is very involved in the L.A. riots and part of the reconciliation efforts that occurred there, the multiracial issues that were occurring there between African-Americans as well as the Asian and Hispanic communities.

MATHEWS: And she's been involved in that effort in her home city. And finally, Suzan Johnson Cook. And some of you may have met Suzan when she was a White House Fellow. Suzan is an African American female minister in New York City.

Elapsed Time 00:04, Eastern Time 13:20

Right now she's senior pastor of what's called the Bronx Christian Fellowship in the Bronx. She was also the first female chaplain of the New York City Police Department.

The other name that I'll go ahead and announce now -- and you'll understand how it fits into the structure as I go on. Oh. I'm sorry. My list is... Yes. I'm sorry. Skipped over it. Tom Kean, who I think you all are familiar with, the former governor.

QUESTION: Tom (OFF-MIKE)?

MATHEWS: Kean. And it's spelled. K-e. Right. The other name that I will go ahead and announce now is Christopher Edley. Chris Edley is not a member of the advisory board. But what Chris is going to do is he's going to be a senior adviser to the initiative. And he will help us with our policy development. He'll be a consultant and will come down periodically and work with our domestic policy counsel, Elena Kagan and Jose Cerda, to organize and develop policies over the period of the year. So those are the names. And why don't I now go to the...

QUESTION: One question. What's Taylor Branch's role going to be? Is he going to sort of work with the president to write his report?

Elapsed Time 00:05, Eastern Time 13:21

MATHEWS: If it's all right, can I get through the initiative and then return to the question, or...? I think that might be helpful if we could get... And then we'll come... We'll do it that way, then. Good.

First, under the goals. Goal number one is to articulate the president's vision of racial reconciliation. And we think that's an important thing. Because it is his vision of how we want to take the country into the next

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century and talk about what he believes and why that's right. And that will be the focus of the speech. Part of why we're doing this briefing now is so that he has that ability in the speech on Saturday.

Goal number two is to help educate the nation, both about the facts surrounding the issue of race, and the history. At this point we have a generation -- the education has two focuses to it, the past and the future. We have a situation now where many people don't know the history of the civil rights movement or a lot of the nation's history with regards to race relations, whether it's black, white, Hispanic or Native American.

Elapsed Time 00:06, Eastern Time 13:22

Additionally, the education part is about talking about what the future's going to look like. If you looked at the Gallup study -- I think you all probably saw some very interesting statistics. While that was black-white only, and the initiative is broader than that, you saw the number of people, whites, and what they thought the racial mix was. There are some misperceptions in education there on what our racial balance is now. But also, I'm not sure how many people in the United States realize that in the year 2050 we'll be at about 53 percent white, and then 47 percent other minorities.

The third goal is to promote a constructive dialogue. I think that's something you all have talked and heard a lot about, leading up to this effort. And one thing I would add there, it's a constructive dialogue on the difficult issues. In order to have a dialogue, we need to have a dialogue on some of the positive things, like the Tuskegee apology. But we also need to talk about some of the tough issues, like the kind of issues you all face every day, whether it's in your news organizations, in hiring, or in your communities.

Elapsed Time 00:07, Eastern Time 13:23

The fourth goal is to recruit and encourage leadership. In order to give the effort breadth and depth, part of what we will do is try and work to get others involved, whether it's in business or in state and local government, in the states throughout the nation.

And finally, the fifth goal is to find, develop and implement solutions in critical areas such as education, economic opportunity, housing, health care, crime and the administration of justice.

MATHEWS: And these solutions that we're looking for are for individuals, for communities, for corporations and for state and local governments.

On the methods, just a couple of points. One is presidential leadership. This contrast with past issues because of the close involvement of the president. That's why I chose to do an advisory board instead of what has been viewed as a traditional commission.

Then let me just say, it has three elements, really, if you think about it. Dialogue, study and action.

Elapsed Time 00:08, Eastern Time 13:24

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And I can spend time, but I'll wait for questions to do that. The elements of the initiative: One, the advisory board, which we just talked about. Those people will help scope and focus the study and dialogue work that we do over the year. They'll also help us with policy ideas, with outreach to the community, with working with experts and talking to the American people.

Two, the president is going to do significant events throughout the year. I think it has already been reported, some of those will be town halls. Others of those will be events like Tuskegee. And today we're announcing that we will be going to Little Rock for the Central High anniversary.

QUESTION: When is that?

MATHEWS: September -- I don't know the exact date that we're going. But we can get that for you.

The third element is the outreach and consultation of leadership, which our advisory board will help us with and our staff that will set up will.

And the fourth thing is the president's report to the American people. Instead of having a report from a commission, the president will be doing his own report to the American people.

Finally, something that won't be in your paper, but is an important element, is that we will be selecting an executive director and a staff.

Elapsed Time 00:09, Eastern Time 13:25

The staff will be about 15 to 20 people and will be a combination of detailees, agency reps and a few hires. That'll be funded. We're working with -- Justice is working with its appropriators right now to try and do a reprogramming of funds to do that, to pay for that.

I think with that, I should stop and we should take questions, unless you have anything to add, Maria.

ECHAVESTE: I just wanted to add that in formulating this initiative, we did engage in a process of outreach that was both wide but also close in. Senior staff as well as the president talked to in depth with between 25 to 35 individuals in the course of the last two- and-a-half months.

But we also spoke to over 100 people before we finalized the initiative, getting their reaction and their thoughts about what road he should take. We have ongoing a process of contacting over 300 people around the country, opinion leaders, constituencies, organizations, others who we hope will be part of this initiative in the course of the next year.

Elapsed Time 00:10, Eastern Time 13:26

I think the best thing to say is that the reaction from a number of different people and practically the majority was positive in having the president take on this initiative. But also urging the president to take on the hard issues. And that is why the initiative has taken the form that it has.

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So I'll stop there.

QUESTION: What is the ultimate goal? Is it integration? A total reconciliation and what, you know, what is it really striving for, in English?

MATHEWS: Our hope is that in a year's time, that we will have ways that both policies and people can help the nation respect each other's differences, but at the same time grow together as one. And that's it, in a simple sentence.

But let me just elaborate a little bit. And that's the idea that we're going to continue to become more and more racially diverse.

Elapsed Time 00:11, Eastern Time 13:27

And as we do, we need to learn that we have to start with the respect of each other's differences before we can focus on those things that are our shared values, our shared concerns, our shared problems, and do it as one nation.

QUESTION: There's already been some criticism of the fact that the solutions come at the back end. There are people out there already saying what the president needs to do is talk about solutions to these problems on the street -- crime, justice, so forth -- now. And they want money, as well.

MATHEWS: Two -- I think two separate parts there. One, is that we are going to start talking about those issues now. And as far as policy actions, that will come over the time. The three different parts -- study, dialogue, and action are iterative. And they will feed into each other over the period of a year.

On the separate question of money, did you want to...

ECHAVESTE: ... I just wanted to add that this is a different time than it was, say, 25 or 30 years ago. There was a consensus, if you will, that there were legal barriers, things that the government needed to do. I would argue that at the moment, there's not a consensus that in fact, racism still exists.

Elapsed Time 00:12, Eastern Time 13:28

There are many places around the country that believe that in fact, we've solved all our problems. So before you start advocating particular solutions, there needs to be a process of shared views that in fact, problems exist, and how to address them.

QUESTION: Can you describe those problems? What is it -- what is the problem that the president hopes to address with this? Is it racial prejudice and bigotry that he thinks is out of control, or something of that nature?

MATHEWS: I think that there are a number of different problems. And that's a part of what the initiative will show over time. We see problem in perception. And then you see, there are really two categories, problems in perception, and problems in reality.

In the perception front, what's actually stereotypes and what's reality? And we saw, I think, a perception gap in the Gallup poll. And we see that in a number of different places. On the question of what's really wrong, the



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reality of how much racism does exist, and how do we work to correct for that.

Elapsed Time 00:13, Eastern Time 13:29

QUESTION: The Kerner Commission addressed all of this 25 years ago. And a lot of people would say things have gotten a lot worse since then. How is this going to succeed, where the Kerner Commission failed? And Lyndon Johnson initiative failed?

MATHEWS: Well I think for starters, the Kerner Commission, number one, focused only on African American and white relations. Notwithstanding, that in different part of the country you already had a multi-ethnic, multi-racial community.

Number two, the Kerner Commission came as a result of a particular time in terms of violence and riots and that type of crisis. This is a different time.

And number three, there are issues in terms of really asking -- you know -- there are some issues that relate to economics. And there will be those critics on the left who say money is what's needed, investment in the inner cities.

Elapsed Time 00:14, Eastern Time 13:30

But there are others who would argue that notwithstanding the strides that have been made in terms of increasing opportunities for different minorities, that there continues to be racism even -- for example -- a company like Texaco, where the issue wasn't getting a job. It was actually the interactions among people, and what kind of atmosphere people worked under.

So, those are issues that aren't necessarily solved by money. But nonetheless, have to be attacked.

QUESTION: Where's the staff going to come from? What kind of staff are you looking for? You're reprogramming people, but from what functions?

MATHEWS: From all our departments. They'll come from the Cabinet departments, is where they'll come from. When we talked about some of the substantive issue areas, like housing, the administration of justice, health care -- Secretary Shalala, in our Cabinet briefing yesterday, expressed her interest in ensuring...

QUESTION: ... (OFF-MIKE) Cabinet, it will be sort of a subset of the Cabinet?

MATHEWS: We'll have people from all the -- we have to have people from a number of the departments representing those different areas, to help guide the policy development, as well as the dialogue and the study.

Elapsed Time 00:15, Eastern Time 13:31

QUESTION: I don't mean to be excessively, you know, negative about this, because I understand that that's unpleasant. You're trying to do something good here and so forth.

But I guess the interesting thing for a lot of us is that, you know, you keep -- the folks who talk about this keep saying, well, there was a consensus 25

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years ago. There's no consensus today, and that's why we have to have this big sort of discussion to figure out what to do.

I think when people who cover these issues would dispute that there was any consensus about that. Why was there a year-long battle over the Civil Rights Act, you know, in 1964?

So I guess some people who've been sort of analyzing this initiative wonder whether this idea that it's so unclear what to do -- we don't know what the problems are, we have to figure out before we can act -- it's kind of a way to avoid doing something. It's just a way to kind of talk about these issues without really having to decide something and actually do something -- those things that are within the president's power to do -- like, for example, make certain appointments, integrate the White House a little bit more thoroughly than it is, things of that sort.

Do you know what I'm talking about, and could you speak to that?

MATHEWS: I would be interested in the consensus point. I'm not -- you know, if you want to articulate what you believe the consensus is -- that there is a race problem, that there isn't, or that...

Elapsed Time 00:16, Eastern Time 13:32

QUESTION: I mean, the idea that 25 years ago it was so clear what direction the country needed to move in cannot be the case if there were these profound, you know, legislative battles we had over every major civil rights initiative that's ever been passed in this country.

There were tremendous pitched battles. There were fist fights on the floor, off the floor -- you know, screaming fits. So clearly, there was no consensus 25 years ago. And yet, legislation was passed, moved forward and so forth, with the president's leadership.

So the -- so you see my point? So it isn't just that everybody jumped up, and said, we need to pass the Civil Rights Act. They didn't do that.  
(OFF-MIKE)...

MATHEWS: I think, though, that we believe that we are showing leadership. The truth is that, I think, that while this is an issue that often is sailing against the political head winds in a number of ways.

By going to California and choosing that as the place in which we make our speech, you know, I think we are making a statement. Already, we have seen ads that are cut.

Elapsed Time 00:17, Eastern Time 13:33

I think the president is showing leadership on the issue, and we are starting to see reaction. We are going to have critics from the left and critics from the right. They are going to be passionate, and they are going to be vocal. That's why this is a tough issue and an important issue.

As far as the action, part of the things that we believe is an important thing to do -- there are the policy elements, and we have already started

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work.

The Domestic Policy Council, under Elana Kagan and Jose Serda, working with our council's office have started the interagency process with the Justice Department and Education on specifically looking at the ramifications of Hopwood and Prop 209.

We are on our way on those things. The other thing, in terms of action, the issue of dialogue -- when we've discussed things with a number of people outside, the importance of having people talk about it, having the president show the leadership to have the American people talk about the tough issues that we all aren't willing to talk about on a day-to-day basis.

QUESTION: How did you figure out that this would be a year-long process? It seems like an awful long time for things that are on the front burner. A lot of people wonder, why will it take so long?

Elapsed Time 00:18, Eastern Time 13:34

MATHEWS: As I said, it will be an iterative process. It's our expectation that policies will be announced along the way, and we will do that along the way.

As far as deciding on a year, we wanted to get the president's report out within a year.

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE). If you find, as the president talks, that he doesn't build any consensus, will you then not put out policy?

MATHEWS: No.

QUESTION: I mean, is this idea that he has to build the support for it first, and if that isn't there, you won't do...

MATHEWS: No. We will put out the policies that we believe are best.

QUESTION: And secondly, if I could, people who met with the president the other night said that he talked about looking at polling data that showed, you know, what American whites, you know, are ready for discussing.

How much has this been polled by the White House or by DNC pollsters for the White House?

MATHEWS: That's a question I'll have to defer.

MATHEWS: In terms of how much, I think understanding some of the issues that -- in terms of -- do people think that it is a problem and that sort of thing.

QUESTION: Did you do polling? Or did Penn and Schoen or Greenberg do polling?

MATHEWS: I did...

MATHEWS: The issue in question of do people consider this a problem...

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Elapsed Time 00:19, Eastern Time 13:35

QUESTION: No, just polling

MATHEWS: Yes, yes. I'm answering the question with the issue that we...

QUESTION: Did they consider -- and can you say how extensively and how many weeks you were going on this?

MATHEWS: Not extensively.

QUESTION: Not extensively.

MATHEWS: We built on other...

LOCKHART: Can I just for a second.

MATHEWS: Yes.

LOCKHART: I mean, I don't have any more exact numbers. But in addition to our own -- I mean, we -- Sylvia and a group were -- yes.

QUESTION: So by our own who do you mean?

QUESTION: Do you mean Penn and Schoen?

LOCKHART: Oh, I'll get that answer for you. I mean, I don't know, but I know there was some look at sort of levels of perception on the issue. But also, there is a lot of information out there. Gallup did a very comprehensive -- and we've looked at that. They came in and talked to us about that.

MATHEWS: They came in and talked to us privately.

QUESTION: Was this the usual polling or was that from some other source?

LOCKHART: I'll find out.

QUESTION: Sylvia, why did it take seven months for the president to nominate an assistant attorney general for civil rights?

MATHEWS: I think in selecting a person of the quality that we believe that we have, that we went through and examined a number of different candidates around the country to ensure that we got the best candidate.

Elapsed Time 00:20, Eastern Time 13:36

Additionally, I think you all know that the vetting process on our candidates is an important one that we like to do before we announce the candidates and that took awhile to do. Many people in this area -- when you look at this area, it's an area where people have a lot of writings. And in order for you to do that, you need to look and examine and understand what they've written and what they've said and what they think.

QUESTION: So, basically what you're saying is you didn't want another Lani Guinier example?

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(LAUGHTER)

MATHEWS: I think what I'm saying is we wanted to make sure that we had a candidate that we felt was the best candidate for the job and that we believed was a person who would represent our views.

QUESTION: Sylvia, could you flush out some more on the task force? I mean -- they're going to meet regularly or they're all going to move here and work full time? Give me some examples of what they will actually do in a real life basis.

Elapsed Time 00:21, Eastern Time 13:37

MATHEWS: Some examples of the types of things that the task force will do. They will on a regular basis communicate as a group with the executive director in helping scope the project in terms of work plans and the type of issues we need to focus on. That's one type of activity they'll do. Another one is, they'll be participants in the president's activities abroad, out in the country, as he is doing outreach and doing things like town halls.

QUESTION: It's not a paid position that they're doing?

MATHEWS: No.

QUESTION: OK.

MATHEWS: It is not a full time -- it is neither a paid position nor a full time position.

QUESTION: Is it right to think of them as a, like a board for the executive director and the staff?

MATHEWS: They are the advisory board to the president. Yes, that is correct. And that is why we call them a board.

QUESTION: But not as -- I mean, earlier you said task force. They're like the board of directors would be for a college president or something like that. Is that a fair way of thinking about this?

MATHEWS: Not being familiar with all that a college board of presidents do, but yes that's the general.

Elapsed Time 00:22, Eastern Time 13:38

QUESTION: To be there for giving advice and so forth.

MATHEWS: Yes.

QUESTION: They're not actually doing study, research...

MATHEWS: They will not be doing the research. That's what -- the purpose of the staff.

QUESTION: Sylvia, you said you're making a statement by going to California. What statement are you making?

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MATHEWS: We believe that going to California -- Maria, do you want to do this one?

ECHAVESTE: Yes.

MATHEWS: Go ahead.

ECHAVESTE: Going to California as everyone knows is a place where -- sets trends. It is the state that has a very diverse population. It is home of Proposition 187, Proposition 209, the UC Regents. It is going to San Diego -- generally thought of as white conservative. Nonetheless, this campus happens to be among the most diverse of the UC. It's saying that we believe in taking this issue and having a dialogue about it. And finding ways to confront the problems facing us.

QUESTION: Right, but the question -- when you made the statement about, making a statement by going to California -- was in the context of the president...

ECHAVESTE: We believe it's bold to go to California to a UC system when Prop 209 is an issue that is so relevant there.

QUESTION: So the statement is...

ECHAVESTE: The statement is we want to be clear that the president is -- he's expressed his view on this issue. And we're going to continue to express our view on that issue and what he believes.

Elapsed Time 00:23, Eastern Time 13:39

QUESTION: So the statement is, we're opposed to Prop 209?

ECHAVESTE: And we support...

QUESTION: That's not bold. I mean, you said that.

LOCKHART: Let me -- it's broader than that. It's that the -- this year-long initiative is not going to shy away from the controversial issues. Now, it's not going to deal with only broad, academic issues that don't -- that aren't relevant to the political dialogue that's going on now.

And by going to California, we're going into the place where you have one of the most active discussions going on within the -- within California, within the university system. And we're going in there. And we're going to lay out what we plan to talk about for the next year. We thought, you know, it was about the most relevant place you could go to give this. And I think there is a statement there.

MATHEWS: And the future-oriented focus -- the only other thing I would add is the future-oriented focus of the initiative, that the demographic changes that are occurring in the nation, California is a place that is on the front edge of that.

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QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE) action when he speaks in California on Saturday?

MATTHEWS: I'm sorry? Will he...

QUESTION: Will he speak directly to the question of affirmative action when he speaks on Saturday in California? I mean, you've said that that's one reason he's going there. Is he actually going to talk about it?

MATTHEWS: It will be in the speech.

QUESTION: Maria, you just mentioned the campus having a good record. As I know you know, in the last two days, there's been quite a lot of racial turmoil on that campus because the provost of Thurgood Marshall College has quit because they rejected his plan to reach out to disadvantaged blacks and Hispanics. Does that embarrass you? Does that cause you to pause about picking that campus?

ECHAVESTE: It highlights that in fact the answers to what do you do in light of UC regents or Proposition 209 or the Hopwood case. The one response that had been considered had been, have universities make partnerships with local high schools in order to educate and prepare them for the university system, shows that the regent -- the UC-San Diego's decision not to accept the charter high school -- that those answers are not easy.

Elapsed Time 00:25, Eastern Time 13:41

But they definitely need to be considered. We don't shy about going there.

QUESTION: Given the president's problems -- with Lani Guinier; the affirmative action review; the fact that his closest friends, like Marion Wright Edelman, practically walked out on him when he did welfare reform -- what makes you think that the president can succeed at this race initiative? What makes him believe that he can actually do something.

MATTHEWS: First, I'd like to kind of go back to a little bit of the premise. On affirmative action, I think this president's stand on affirmative action -- to stand up, and say that he believes that amended, not ended, for affirmative action -- is very important.

I believe that our proposed rule-making right now on procurement that is out for comment right now will be a very important part of preserving and narrowing, tailoring, as we've been advised by the courts to do, so -- on that front.

Elapsed Time 00:26, Eastern Time 13:42

In terms of the others that are around him and have been around him, if you look at our Cabinet, and the people from Rodney Slater to Alexis Herman to Federico Pena that have been here -- and there are many -- a number of others -- that we have a, within the administration, we have a large group, both in the Cabinet and here in the White House.

Elapsed Time 00:26, Eastern Time 13:42

MATTHEWS: I think that we think that the president can succeed, I think because he is dedicating himself to it personally. And the other thing I would say is that there isn't a silver bullet. This isn't an easy problem. We

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recognize it. And we recognize the difficulties that we're going to face in trying to do it.

But we also believe that it is the time, at a time when the nation's in reasonable -- is economically healthy and a time when we're on the verge of some big changes as far as our demographics, that we need to do this. And that's why we're doing it now.

QUESTION: Could you talk a little bit about the process of culling down the list of possibilities for this panel? What was the criteria? And who were some of the people who signed off on these people other than the president?

ECHAVESTE: The process started with a very long list of -- I'd say, probably about 250 names.

Elapsed Time 00:27, Eastern Time 13:43

And what we attempted to do was find people from different walks of life who could contribute both their ideas and the people that they communicate and have contact with. We wanted -- John Hope Franklin, as you all know, is 82. But Suzan Cook is very young.

We wanted to get a mix because part of the initiative will focus on youth. We wanted to get people from different backgrounds.

Suzan comes from a religious background, while Thomas comes from a business background. We tried to get a mix of people in terms of views and perspectives. Governor Winter is a southern governor. Governor Kean is from the north.

And what we tried to do was get a balance of people that represented a number of different things so we could have a good mix of advice going into the president.

QUESTION: Who did you run these names by? I mean, were they among the people who met with the president the other night? Did you run the names by them? Or who exactly signed off?

ECHAVESTE: Some of those people we consulted with early on with our names.

QUESTION: So did you consider people who were just simply opposed to affirmative action or government preference policies? Or I mean, does the president want people who already basically support his premises?

ECHAVESTE: Those names were considered, but what we tried to do was put together a group that we feel could advise us on the policies and issues that we want to pursue.

QUESTION: They basically agree with the president.

Elapsed Time 00:28, Eastern Time 13:44

QUESTION: You're having a board, but you've already decided what you're going -- that you want these people to support what you...



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ECHAVESTE: I think what we're talking about when we talk about affirmative action is a pretty fundamental core -- one of the policy areas that we'll be looking at. So in that area -- and actually, I think the truth is we didn't ask that question when we asked the members to serve.

QUESTION: Why not?

(UNKNOWN): What is the question I'm answering here?

ECHAVESTE: I'm answering the question of did we -- do we have people on the -- is the question do we have people on the board who support...

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE) like a full debate. I mean did you take -- there are plenty of prominent people who have made it clear they're opposed to affirmative action. I mean, did you seek out those kind of people or was it clear that you want essentially people who basically agree with the president's approach to advise on more narrow questions rather than the whole spectrum?

Elapsed Time 00:29, Eastern Time 13:45

ECHAVESTE: On the issue of Prop 209 and affirmative action specifically, there were names on the list that are opposed to our position that we originally put together. However, on that particular issue, we did not directly ask people -- Do you support that? Do you not support that?

QUESTION: But you ruled out the people you knew who were opposed? Is that correct?

MATHEWS: This commission is more -- it's not -- it's not a commission. It's an advisory board. You know, you're thinking of a commission...

QUESTION: You ruled out the people you knew were opposed, isn't that correct?

MATHEWS: There are going to be...

ECHAVESTE: They will be a part of the dialogue. At this point...

QUESTION: But they won't be on the advisory board?

MATHEWS: At this point, all the people -- the people that are mainly vocal against affirmative action are not a part of the advisory board.

QUESTION: Did you consult with any people like that in the process?

QUESTION: Can you identify any people that were consulted with?

MATHEWS: I just don't have my list of names. But we did talk to people who thought that -- who had different views about how to deal with racism in this country -- that where the answer isn't in affirmative action but economic opportunity as a way of dealing with those issues. We did talk to people like that.

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QUESTION: You were talking about healing the racial divide. What American are you specifically hoping to target or to bring into the fold with this whole initiative?

ECHAVESTE: I think that it is our hope that the initiative will reach everyone. When we say "race," we are referring to whites, Hispanics, blacks, Asian-Americans and Native Americans. We believe it's very important for whites in the country to be a part of the initiative.

QUESTION: Are you looking more so to more white people to understand that there's a problem, especially since you said earlier that the majority here in America is white?

Elapsed Time 00:31, Eastern Time 13:47

ECHAVESTE: We're looking for both. We're looking for both people of color as well as whites to look and examine the issue and see. That's part of why in the study session we talked about stereotypes versus reality. To understand which groups have a, you know, we're going to look at which pieces are right and which are reality.

QUESTION: Is there a concern that the California affirmative action action will spread through the country?

MATHEWS: It's -- I mean...

QUESTION: Is that contagious?

MATHEWS: Well, I wouldn't use the word "contagious." The fact is is that a lot of people all over the country are saying that affirmative action is not needed, that in fact racism and discrimination is no longer a problem. So...

QUESTION: I mean, in the states and so forth, (OFF-MIKE)...

MATHEWS: Yes, absolutely.

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE).

QUESTION: Can I try a question that I ask in a briefing, again. Is the president prepared to deal with the possibility that this full discussion, as often occurs in, say, in employment -- in work places, that this could exacerbate racial problems at least in the short term? And what would he be willing to do about that?

Elapsed Time 00:32, Eastern Time 13:48

ECHAVESTE: I think that as we discussed before, that the president is ready for a difficult discussion. I think as was reported today and has been reported before, that sometimes people efforts on this front do create strains and stresses.

And I think we're ready for taking that on. I think we've already seen the advertising that's occurred, both in Washington and San Diego, which are signs.

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We are, as I have said, going to have critics from the left and the right. And that's because it is a very, very important issue that many people feel very passionately about. And we're already hearing that, and I think we're ready to take that.

QUESTION: You said you talked to some people who disagree with the administration's position. Was Ward Connerly one of them? And what is your reaction to the fact that he -- while he's running these radio ads against the president, will be there at the commencement address Saturday?

ECHAVESTE: He's a UC regent.

QUESTION: Is he somebody you talked to?

ECHAVESTE: No, but he's...

QUESTION: What do you say to a lot of these civil rights leaders who are very upset that they're not on this advisory board, like Jesse Jackson, Kweisi Mfume, people of that nature?

Elapsed Time 00:33, Eastern Time 13:49

MATHEWS: Part of the reaction we got when we were doing our outreach was the fact that a lot of people said don't try to do a committee. Don't try to do a group. You'll never figure out who should be on it.

The fact is, the president cannot take on this issue alone. And he is a full-time president. And when a small advisory group that can help guide and help us identify the key issues, what we should focus on when we're travelling around the country what is the way to go. And that was the decision that was made.

And we'll be consulting with those people. I think you all know Reverend Jackson was in last week. And Kweisi Mfume was in as well this week.

MATTHEWS: So the effort is not limited to the advisory board.

QUESTION: So the concern is the fact they deal with civil rights and issues like this on a daily basis.

MATTHEWS: And they have the expertise, and we will be working with them. I mean, think of it as -- well, the way we think of it is a year-long process in which, at different points and times, different groups of people will be convened, a conversation had, at which -- certainly, in the process here in the White House that we had, there was in fact different views around that table that was very enlightening and eye-opening.

Elapsed Time 00:34, Eastern Time 13:50

QUESTION: Sylvia, does the president believe that the fundamental conclusion of the Kerner Commission is still accurate today, that there are two societies in this country -- one black, one white -- separate and unequal?

MATTHEWS: I think he would say that we have made some progress, but that there is still a long way to go. And I think the other thing that he would

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say is it's not a black and white. It's a black, white, Asian-American -- that it's a different -- in that sense, it's also different from Kerner. That it's not just two. It's a hundred. And that's a part of why the initiative is so important at this time.

QUESTION: Was the Justice Department civil rights job did that -- did you make a concerted effort to get that filled prior to the announcement this weekend? Does that explain the timing of that?

MATTHEWS: We have been working on that for a while. We were pleased that we were able to announce it before we go to California.

Elapsed Time 00:35, Eastern Time 13:51

QUESTION: Could you elaborate on just what the president role is envisioned to be? You have talked quite a bit about the board here. Is he going to be -- does he see himself as a mediator, a conciliator, a moderator? What exactly is his ultimate role in this process?

MATTHEWS: I think the president will have a number of different roles. We will depend on his intellectual leadership as we go through our processes with the executive staff as well as the White House staff. He will be the person that will be on the line in terms of his events, leading dialogue in different settings such as town halls.

Elapsed Time 00:36, Eastern Time 13:52

He also will be the president speaking to these issues in terms of like how he will do in the speech in California, which are three different ways that the president will be involved and engaged in the process.

LOCKHART: We'll just take care of a couple more and then...

QUESTION: Sylvia, do you all have a sense yet of what kind of venues you are going to do the town halls in and when the first one will be?

MATTHEWS: No, we have had a number of requests that I think once we get -- we want to consult with the advisory board as well as the executive director. We have had a number of requests from everyone from communities to news organizations.

QUESTION: When do you anticipate -- how long (OFF-MIKE) before you do the first town hall?

Elapsed Time 00:37, Eastern Time 13:53

MATTHEWS: I think that will be dependent on the president's schedule.

QUESTION: Is there some core set of beliefs that the president has at this point that he will -- just wants to do that he thinks is right and that maybe he wants his advisory board to help him find a way to implement it? But coming into this -- and if so, can you tell us what the course of the beliefs he has in terms -- and I mean, very specifically -- something that should be a piece of legislation, something that could be remedied by one way or the other, like where is his ferment here going into this?

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MATTHEWS: I think sort of two different answers to that question.

LOCKHART: Speech.

(LAUGHTER)

MATTHEWS: We'll let Mr. McCurry -- that will come out in the speech.

All right. Well, thank you.

LOCKHART: One thing quickly. The Little Rock Central High visit is September 25.

QUESTION: Is that the anniversary of this...

MCCURRY: And the scheduling staff was delighted, if somewhat surprised, that we announced that. I had got asked that, I think, a while back. Well, thank you to Sylvia and Maria for that briefing. Anything else in the world that any of you would like to know about?

QUESTION: I'd like to hear about disaster relief.

MCCURRY: Apparently the Republican caucus has been caucusing for most of the day and there hasn't been any white smoke. You know, sooner or later, they will come out and say, yes, we recognize the president's concerns and we also recognize the concerns of the people who have been waiting for disaster assistance, and they will pass something and send it down here so we can get on with life. But unfortunately, that hasn't happened yet.

QUESTION: Do you think it'll happen today?

MCCURRY: We hope so. We had, of course, indications from the Republican leadership that they were set to acknowledge this time to move on and pass something so that the president could sign it, but they apparently are still quibbling amongst themselves. We wish they would stop fighting amongst themselves and just get on with work and send us a bill.

QUESTION: They claim that the president has violated an agreement that they -- that he wants to go higher now on the amount of aid?

MCCURRY: I think the issue was just getting full funding for the disaster assistance programs that we were talking about and that's what we would like.

They have suggested some ways in which they might want to trim some of the funding from other aspects of the bill and Mr. Hilley from our staff has given them some general parameters that would be acceptable to the White House so that they can craft the right kind of legislation.

I mean, they know what will pass the test for the president. They just haven't been able to produce anything at this point.

Elapsed Time 00:38, Eastern Time 13:54

QUESTION: Mike, is there a prospect of an imminent breakthrough on the tobacco issue?

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MCCURRY: No that I've heard.

QUESTION: Some of the attorneys general, that some of the people involved say that they are very, very close. Is the White House prepared to sign off on this deal if there is a deal?

MCCURRY: They have reported to us, to Mr. Lindsey, that they are in fact making progress, and that on a lot of issues, they have got some things that they think are going to work for all the parties represented at the discussions, but they have some very real disagreements and it's not clear whether those disagreements will be resolved.

In fact, I happen -- I happened to run into Attorney General Moore myself. I just had an opportunity. He told me that as of late yesterday and Mr. Lindsey says that's pretty much where things stand at this point.

Elapsed Time 00:39, Eastern Time 13:55

QUESTION: Any reaction on the NATO decision?

MCCURRY: Let me -- yes. Let me first...

QUESTION: Is Attorney General Moore in the White House today?

MCCURRY: I don't know if he's been here today. I ran into him yesterday. And he was here and he's talked to Bruce Lindsey. He also went over and talked to -- there's a group that includes some White House folks, Health and Human Services folks and some Justice Department folks that are getting set to -- if there is anything they need to review -- review it so that the White House can give a more concrete and clearer answer to the question, is this something that the president finds acceptable?

And they're starting to get organized so that they know what the relevant issues are, and I believe that Mr. Myers and Attorney General Moore met with that inter-agency group yesterday over at HHS.

Elapsed Time 00:40, Eastern Time 13:56

So -- but in addition, they were here and they talked to Mr. Lindsey.

QUESTION: But the procedure would be that the state attorneys general would -- and the industry leaders would come to some agreement and then the White House would review it. It wouldn't be a tripartite type announcement of agreement, would it?

MCCURRY: Our presumption is that they are going to work through all these relevant issues and say, here's what we think works in the best interests of the parties that we represent, the states we represent, the industries we represent, the constituencies we represent.

We would like to present it to the White House for the reaction of the president, and we want to be in a position to evaluate that in a way that is consistent with the president's public health objectives. And so we're going to take a -- have to look at a very detailed look and see, is this going to get us to the president's goal of a reduction by half in the number of kids who are

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smoking by the year 2000, and will it get us there faster than the regulatory approach, which is subject to litigation, of course?

MCCURRY: The problem and the challenge all along has been to see if we can't arrive at something that avoids protracted negotiations while being consistent with the public health interests that the president has expressed.

Elapsed Time 00:41, Eastern Time 13:57

And they're not -- they're certainly not there at this point.

QUESTION: Well, Mike, just out of curiosity on this tobacco thing -- at the very least -- I mean, to put it mildly, you've been actively monitoring the discussions. What does the White House need to sign off on that it can't at this point say: We know precisely what all the details of this are. We'll either say yea or nay?

MCCURRY: Well, but we don't. I mean, I don't. And I'm certain that the parties themselves don't know what some of the central -- how they're going to answer some of the central questions or if some of the central questions are going to be answered.

QUESTION: But I'm saying, when the deal is done, you're saying that the White House doesn't sufficiently know the details of it now, and it hasn't sufficiently run it by, you know, all of the relevant agencies to say, yes, this is good or bad?

MCCURRY: We have not. And we are -- as I just reported to you -- we are starting to organize so that we would be in a position to be able to do that if they reach that kind of settlement.

Elapsed Time 00:42, Eastern Time 13:58

QUESTION: How close are they?

MCCURRY: Enormously complicated, and they've -- you know, some of the discussions on certain areas have been fairly technical and have not produced clear-cut answers on how you're going to resolve certain questions.

In fact, one reason we have not sort of tried to answer the question, is this going to work, is we're not exactly sure what they're going to end up with at the end of the day. Some of the proposed solutions to certain types of problems have shifted around during the course of their discussions.

That's one reason why, I think, we've sort of monitored where they are and given them some general parameters about what we think is in the realm of the acceptable and reminded them, you know, overall what our long-term interests are, which are to achieve the public health objectives the president has.

QUESTION: How close are you to consensus on limiting the new NATO members to three?

MCCURRY: Let me first read a statement from the president. We'll have this, I think, in written form, too, also. You've got it on the record.

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"After careful consideration, I have decided that the United States will support inviting three countries -- Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic -- to begin accession talks to join NATO when we meet in Madrid next month.

Elapsed Time 00:43, Eastern Time 13:59

"We have said all along that we would judge aspiring members by their ability to add strength to the alliance and their readiness to shoulder the obligations of NATO membership.

"Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic clearly meet those criteria and have currently made the greatest strides in military capacity and political and economic reform.

"As I have repeatedly emphasized, the first new members should not and will not be the last. We will continue to work with other interested nations, such as Slovenia and Romania, to help them prepare for membership. Other nations are making good progress, and none will be excluded from consideration.

"We look forward to working with our NATO allies to reach agreement on this important issue."

That statement from the president -- Secretary Cohen has now formally presented to our allies the United States position at the defense ministers meeting that's occurring now in Brussels.

Elapsed Time 00:44, Eastern Time 14:00

We will continue to consult and to work with our alliance partners. And through the good offices of the secretary-general, we expect to arrive at consensus well before the Madrid summit.

QUESTION: That statement seems to assume that the U.S. position will carry the day. How do you know that the U.S. position won't carry the day, and that Slovenia and Romania won't be in the first round?

MCCURRY: I'm tempted to say because this is NATO.

MCCURRY: I won't say that. I'll say because we are confident that as we work with our alliance partners, the United States position will prevail. But remember, because NATO operates in a consensus format and because all 16 governments have to accede to the decisions, it is important to note there is consensus already around three.

Elapsed Time 00:45, Eastern Time 14:01

There's -- it's clear that in the discussions we've had so far that there are no objections to these three entrants. There is no consensus across the alliance, with respect to additional members, even though there's a great deal of sympathy for the positions of Romania and Slavonia. In fact, the United States itself recognizes the progress they've made. We just think there needs to be additional progress.

QUESTION: Why did the president decide to announce this today? Earlier, the administration said you were going to wait until there was consensus and work



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internally.

MCCURRY: No, we didn't suggest that. I think we said we would continue to work within the alliance to try to achieve consensus. And sometimes achieving consensus is helped by the United States clarifying publicly its views.

Elapsed Time 00:46, Eastern Time 14:02

We've worked this issue for quite some time in the councils of the foreign ministers at other levels, at which we've had discussion with other members of the alliance. So, I think as we get closer to Madrid, it was proper for the United States to publicly articulate its view.

And of course, the secretary of defense was making this presentation today in Brussels. And it was clearly bound to become public one way or another.

QUESTION: How specifically do Romania and Slovenia fall short?

MCCURRY: Well, they're different in both cases. In the case of Slovenia, they probably still are in a position where there's more they can do to fully demonstrate the military capacity to join the alliance, and to fulfill the military obligations.

I think in the case of Romania, there's still progress needed in both economic areas, in terms of economic liberalization. And then, also some of the political reform process in which would bring them into congruence with some of the other Central European countries that are going to be proposed for membership.

Elapsed Time 00:47, Eastern Time 14:03

This is not to say that they are, you know, lacking. It's to say that the kind of progress that would then qualify them for membership, is something that we clearly hope will evolve that we will nurture. And that one way we will do that, is to continue to support their active participation in the Partnership for Peace program, where they can kind of demonstrate the criteria that we're looking for to qualify for membership.

But again, remember one of the things that we will press for is a very clear decision at the summit that the door is open. And that this is not the last round of new membership candidates from Central and Eastern Europe.

QUESTION: Has the White House had a chance to look at the tax bill yet? And if so, can you give us...

(UNKNOWN): ... NATO (OFF-MIKE)

MCCURRY: Can we finish with NATO? Yeah, OK.

Elapsed Time 00:48, Eastern Time 14:04

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE) to say that the administration came to realization that the lack of a public, open bottom line was allowing other nations, especially the French, to agitate for four or five?

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MCCURRY: Well, maybe a little -- I'd put it a little differently than that. As the decision making in NATO frequently occurs, it's the consultations, the discussion, the dialogue that go on within the -- within the North Atlantic Council is valuable in helping to shape a coming decision. That at the end of the day when United States publicly articulates the position, that that tends to be a way in which things are brought to resolution.

QUESTION: When he met with Kohl last week, did he get any feel that Germany wouldn't stand in the way of three, or continue to push for four?

MCCURRY: The president has had opportunities to review this at his level with some of his counterparts. I'd prefer not to get too directly into those conversations. But he has been part of the process of exploring, examining, understanding better the feelings of other governments.

Elapsed Time 00:49, Eastern Time 14:05

And he has, of course, been making his own positions clear and his own thinking clear to his counterparts.

QUESTION: In his meeting last night with the senators, did they say that they wouldn't oppose just three and not four, even though they wanted four?

MCCURRY: I think the advice and the counsel the president got from members of the Senate last night was very important. By no means is there unanimity within the Senate on this decision.

But I think the Senate clearly understands the president's thinking better partly as a result of the kind of consultation we had last night. And I think the president understands better some of the concerns of leading members of the Senate as they look at the question of expansion.

And I think that generally, we feel that this is a position that the Senate will be supportive of. We understand that there will be some expressions of objection. But we think at the end of the day, given especially the fact that this is going to reduce the cost to U.S. taxpayers of the additional burdens of bringing on new members, that this is going to be a position that the Senate will support when it comes around to ratify an amendment to the treaty.

Elapsed Time 00:50, Eastern Time 14:06

QUESTION: Is the president hoping that the second round of NATO expansion will occur within his administration?

MCCURRY: The Clinton-Gore administration? I think that that's a question that they won't be able to address until they examine how the membership process goes post-Madrid. Remember, this is -- they're not actually, you know, bringing on new members when we meet in Madrid in July. We're actually beginning the process of formally bringing those three countries into the alliance. And that will take some time. And most likely, it will take through 1998 and into 1999.

QUESTION: And also, does he think that the Baltic nations are making similar progress, similar to Slovenia and Romania?

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MCCURRY: Absolutely. In fact, there are -- all three Baltic countries are active participants in Partnership for Peace, have been regular participants in some of the joint-training activities.

The Pentagon can tell you more specifically about some of their participation, but -- and in the area of both economic and political reform, they've been making substantial strides. And there's a great deal of progress there.

Elapsed Time 00:51, Eastern Time 14:07

So if you (OFF-MIKE) ordering, you know, the second group in line, but there will be a number of candidates that will most likely prove very attractive to an expanded alliance.

QUESTION: What is the administration's view on whether Secretary Baker ever told Shevardnadze and Gorbachev that there would not be any eastward advance of NATO?

MCCURRY: I've never looked into that question, so...

QUESTION: Don't you think it might be a somewhat crucial one? (OFF-MIKE) represents a reneging on a previous (OFF-MIKE)?

MCCURRY: I think that the process by which we've arrived at the moment of expanding the alliance has been one of the most transparent of all discussions that we've had about foreign policy over the last years. We've done all of these decisions in a very open way.

Elapsed Time 00:52, Eastern Time 14:08

The bringing on of the Partners for Peace, the creation of that program; the modification of what we call the NACC, which was sort of the predecessor -- in some ways, the predecessor organization of the Partnership for Peace -- all involved an evolution of thinking as we dealt with the aftermath in the end of the Cold War.

So history itself, I think, has changed some of the circumstances in which we looked at these questions. I think all the governments have been very clear on what the thinking of the United States government is as we approach the question of adapting NATO for the reality of the challenges we face in the next century.

MCCURRY: So, I doubt there is any misunderstanding about the U.S. thinking on the general question.

QUESTION: Subject change?

MCCURRY: One more.

QUESTION: Mike, has Russia raised this Baker pledge with the United States as something of an issue in its stated objections to NATO expansion?

MCCURRY: Not to my knowledge. And Eric reminds me that I think, if I'm not mistaken, the Secretary Baker has disputed some of the account of how his views were portrayed.

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Elapsed Time 00:53, Eastern Time 14:09

I wasn't aware of that. Did he -- when did he do that?

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE) when the White House asked that government notes of the meeting be made available.

MCCURRY: That's not normally what's done. When the disclosure comes. When they -- when that volume of the fine series on the historic record of the foreign policy of the United States is printed by the Office of Historian at the State Department, I'm sure those notes will be included.

QUESTION: Mike, Representative Gerald Solomon has accused former Commerce Department John Huang of giving classified information to the Lippo Group. Is the Clinton administration seriously investigating this? Is this a serious allegation?

MCCURRY: I do not, I can't tell you for a fact that it is a serious allegation. And I would presume that if there is any truth to it, it is being pursued properly by those investigating.

Elapsed Time 00:54, Eastern Time 14:10

But I wouldn't be the person to comment on it, the Justice Department clearly would be.

QUESTION: Will this be the subject of the president's remarks this afternoon?

QUESTION: White House...

MCCURRY: Say again?

QUESTION: Was the White House informed of the allegations?

MCCURRY: Well, we've seen the news reports about the allegations, sure. I'm not going to talk about. I mean, I'm not sure, nor would I be able to comment on any information related to the type of information the Congressman referred to. That is stuff that we don't comment in public about even if the congressman chooses to.

QUESTION: Mike, what if it says that they were based on intercepted phone conversations?

MCCURRY: That's exactly what I mean.

QUESTION: So, do you want to talk about intercepted phone conversations?

MCCURRY: Have you ever heard me talk about intercepted phone conversations through these microphones, sir?

QUESTION: As far as you know, can a congressman talk about intercepted phone...

MCCURRY: It's highly unusual.

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Yes.

QUESTION: To follow up on this. So far, about a half a dozen of the president's former fund raisers or contributors have fled the country.

Elapsed Time 00:55, Eastern Time 14:11

And more than a dozen others including John Huang are taking the fifth on grounds that their testimony can incriminate them. Does that trouble the president that so many people appear to have something to hide?

MCCURRY: Well, I don't know what it suggests. But the president has long felt that people should cooperate. He has publicly urged that people cooperate with the legitimate inquiries that are underway. And yet each of the people that you refer to are represented by counsel. And people are also entitled to legal representation. So, they should really speak through their counsel.

QUESTION: Yes, but Mike, above and beyond whether the White House urges them to cooperate, I'm saying does it bother the president that so many people seem to have something to hide?

MCCURRY: I don't know that he makes a judgment that people "have something to hide". I think he knows that they have lawyers. Their lawyers give great legal advice to each of these people. And they really have to speak for themselves. The president is troubled by the fact that anytime there is not the kind of cooperation that he has requested -- and clearly there may be some question whether there is sufficient levels of cooperation underway.

Elapsed Time 00:56, Eastern Time 14:12

But that is a source of concern to him. He would like these various inquiries to go forward and come to some resolution so that we can move on to what is important -- the solution.

MCCURRY: The solution is going to be campaign finance reform at the end of the day, and the sooner we get to that point, the better.

Yes.

QUESTION: One more question on this, Mike, if I may. Republicans want to offer immunity to some of the lower level players. Does the White House have any objection to that?

MCCURRY: I think that's -- I don't know that we have taken a position on that. I haven't talked to anyone here about that question.

QUESTION: So we can just say that the White House doesn't object?

MCCURRY: I can say we don't have a position on the question. It's really a decision that has to be made by the committees, and...

QUESTION: So if they make the decision that they grant immunity...

MCCURRY: David, I don't want to -- look, the Justice Department may have some interest in that question, too. I just am not taking a position here from the

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White House on it. But the Justice Department, according to some of the news accounts I've seen, have been in some type of discussion with the committee on that question.

Elapsed Time 00:57, Eastern Time 14:13

So.

QUESTION: But irrespective of whatever Gerald Solomon is making his allegations, his letter, and his public comments, does the White House -- does the Clinton administration have any reason to believe that John Huang was providing classified information to the Lippo Group?

MCCURRY: I'm not going to comment on what the Clinton administration might have reason to believe because it involves, according to the congressman, things that I can't comment about publicly.

Yes.

QUESTION: Mike, is the president concerned that Mr. Huang might have used him or used their friendship for nefarious purposes? I mean, what about that aspect of it?

MCCURRY: Oh, I think we have -- we've said on occasion over time that there -- that the president is concerned any time it appears that someone may have taken advantage of a relationship. I'm not suggesting that's the case with respect to Huang. I think that has to be established by those who are looking into these matters -- appropriately.

And we're not going to second-guess those investigations. But of course, he would take issue with anyone misrepresenting relationships with him or taking advantage of the relationship or employment in government or work within the national committee for purposes that are not proper.

Elapsed Time 00:58, Eastern Time 14:14

Yes.

QUESTION: On a different subject?

On the speech on Saturday, two questions. One -- did the president personally call these seven people and offer -- ask them to serve on the task force?

MCCURRY: I honestly don't know. Do you know.

He has talked -- he knows -- obviously knows a number of them and has talked to a number of them from time to time. Governor Winter, for example, participated in some of the work that went into developing the initiative itself because he's been here at the White House on occasion for some of the meetings, as have I think one or two of the other participants.

But I don't believe he made the calls directly.

NBC - Professional June 12, 1997, Thursday

Elapsed Time 00:59, Eastern Time 14:15

QUESTION: And secondly, where does the speech-writing stand? Is the outside consultation over? Is the president -- is it written?

MCCURRY: The president's been working with those who are helping him with the speech. In fact, they were doing some work on it today. He's got -- you know -- a draft that probably is three or five or six or seven drafts away from being near final.

And I think Joe's hope is that maybe we can get something of it, at least an advanced text or excerpts tomorrow night, given the deadline problem on Saturday.

QUESTION: How long is it going to be?

MCCURRY: An appropriate length for...

(LAUGHTER)

... for a graduation speech.

Elapsed Time 01:00, Eastern Time 14:16

It'll probably be -- the draft now as it is looks like it's, you know, in the half hour range.

QUESTION: This 4:30 event tomorrow with the board -- the advisory board -- that he's going to do, what exactly will he do then? What will that event be?

MCCURRY: Why don't you let me have Joe do that?

LOCKHART: It actually speaks a little bit to George's question. I don't know if -- to what extent he's spoken to each of the members, but he did ask for some time before they went out to San Diego to get together with them.

The group is going to travel out to San Diego for the speech, and so we put...

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE)

LOCKHART: Yes. And so he wants some time before they got, you know, out of San Diego, to spend some time. It's more of an organizing get-together. It will give them some time to talk a little bit and then they'll go out tomorrow, tomorrow evening.

QUESTION: And will the president be making a public appearance with them as well tomorrow?

LOCKHART: Tomorrow?

QUESTION: Will this -- yes.

LOCKHART: No, just -- It will be just the meeting here and then they will go to Andrews to go out to San Diego.

NBC - Professional June 12, 1997, Thursday

QUESTION: And will there be coverage of this meeting?

LOCKHART: Yes, we'll do, you know, some sort of pull at the top of it.

QUESTION: (Inaudible)

LOCKHART: I don't think so, no. I am not sure that -- I know that there is one who is from Washington.

But they will all be making their way here. I mean, I also know Chris Edley's in town on another matter. So...

QUESTION: Mike, I noticed on the schedule for...

MCCURRY: You know, I wouldn't be surprised too if they all end up kibitzing on the speech at the last minute too. That would not surprise me too much. It just may tamper with our advanced text concept.

Elapsed Time 01:01, Eastern Time 14:17

(LAUGHTER)

QUESTION: What's the nature of the president's...

MCCURRY: I hadn't thought of that until just now.

QUESTION: Are you lying?

QUESTION: What's the nature of the presidential remarks to the Institute on Oceanography that he's talking to after the commencement speech -- I noticed on the schedule?

LOCKHART: It's a luncheon.

MCCURRY: Is that a luncheon probably with local...

LOCKHART: Yes, it's a lunch sort of reception of the people the university's put together. It will just be a short (OFF-MIKE).

MCCURRY: No new pronouncements on oceanography or global warming or...

QUESTION: What about this afternoon...

QUESTION: Frictions between the various marine species or...

(LAUGHTER)

MCCURRY: Pacific salmon issues.

QUESTION: Are you going?

MCCURRY: Atlantic scallops issues. I've got a family event in New Jersey. Mr. Lockhart is going to be in charge.



NBC - Professional June 12, 1997, Thursday

QUESTION: What's today's speech -- this afternoon's -- this topic?

MCCURRY: They were still working on it. It will be kind of for the members of the Business Roundtable. The president's reflection on the status of the economy, how we got to the place where we are today, the contributions they are making to the health of the economy, to the success of welfare reform.

Elapsed Time 01:02, Eastern Time 14:18

He will also talk about the importance of free trade and the overall economic progress that we have seen over the last four and a half years and will specifically talk about the importance of fast track authority and normal trade relations with China.

And then I think the plan is for him to then take a little detour -- This is where you can wake up and pay attention -- into the tax bill and have a little more to say on the tax bill. That's the plan. Now, I meant that we were still waiting to get the president's approval for that.

QUESTION: And this at her briefing tomorrow?

MCCURRY: The big hitters that want a brief are insisting that they can't do it until Monday which means that the minor league briefers, perhaps me, will probably have to try to give you a little more for those of you that have got to write for the weekend. But Secretary Albright and...

QUESTION: Monday will be the big players?

Elapsed Time 01:03, Eastern Time 14:19

MCCURRY: We are trying to get Secretary Albright and Sandy and Dan Turillo (ph) who's the sherpa and Secretary Rubin and maybe we will add a couple of others coming along and entertain us.

QUESTION: Mike, this is one of those for the record questions if you will, why has it been so long since we've had an opportunity to have any kind of exchange between reporters in this room and the president?

MCCURRY: We haven't had a pool spray recently but part of the reason for that is the president -- and I apologize to those of you who have not been part of this. He's been doing a number of interviews and you know, the way we have to conduct this adversarial and I hope amicable relationship is not only through press conferences which we are having in just over a week, pool sprays which we do from time to time, but I also think it is important for the president to have opportunities to talk one on one, individually with news organizations and we have been doing quite a lot of that.

Elapsed Time 01:04, Eastern Time 14:20

QUESTION: Have there been events that have happened here over the past couple of weeks since our last news conference in London that traditionally have been pool events, interviews aside, visiting foreign leaders, congressional delegations, other events?

NBC - Professional June 12, 1997, Thursday

MCCURRY: We handle different kinds of events with different types of press coverage arrangements all the time.

QUESTION: You're not trying to keep us away from the president, are you?

MCCURRY: No, because I mean, we're trying to give some individual news organization some opportunity to do more enterprising and exclusive stuff to, you know, frankly, to get a little bit of play.

QUESTION: The morning interview (OFF-MIKE) one subject?

MCCURRY: We got -- we can't tell news organizations what to ask. We say -- we sort of say the president's interested in talking about X, Y or Z, obviously. You know, we've set up some interviews with respect to the race initiative. And he's got something to say on that. And we're trying to give some people a glimpse of his thinking before the speech on Saturday.

But you know, people -- it's a free country, and a free press is entitled to ask whatever questions they freely arrive at.

QUESTION: Well, I'm glad of that.

(LAUGHTER)

MCCURRY: It's one of the hallmarks of our democracy. It's one of the things that make us strong.

Elapsed Time 01:05, Eastern Time 14:21

It's one of the reasons why we gather here every day.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: June 13, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 101 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1997 Reuters, Limited  
Reuters World Service

March 8, 1997, Saturday, BC cycle

LENGTH: 577 words

HEADLINE: Clinton says government will hire some off welfare

BYLINE: By Steve Holland

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, March 8

BODY:

President Clinton said Saturday the federal government will hire some people off the welfare rolls to entry-level jobs to set an example in a national drive to find work for America's downtrodden.

In his weekly radio address, Clinton directed heads of agencies and departments to prepare detailed plans for hiring welfare recipients. He said the plans should be ready for presentation at a special Cabinet meeting in one month.

He said Vice President Al Gore would oversee the effort.

Under a welfare law Clinton signed in August, able-bodied people on welfare must find jobs in two years. Clinton's goal is to move 2 million from welfare to work in four years. He wants the private sector to hire the most, along with non-profit organisations and religious groups.

But he said the national government, as the country's largest employer, "must do its part and set an example."

"So today I am committing a national government action plan to hire people off welfare," he said.

A White House domestic policy adviser, Elena Kagan, said the jobs in mind earn about \$12,500 a year and include low-skilled positions such as clerks, messengers and forestry jobs. Most would be outside of Washington, D.C.

She said there was no specific number of people the federal government would hire, but said agencies and departments may offer target numbers in the hiring plans they submit to the president.

Agencies are to operate under the federal Worker-Trainee Programme in order to train people quickly and put them to work. Officials said it is an underused programme, with only 120 people hired under it in the 1996 budget year.

Experts said the initiative could give rise to some problems because those doing the hiring would have to put welfare recipients ahead of people with perhaps more job experience in the competition for what are generally considered to be good-paying jobs.

"It's tricky," said Gary Burtless, a welfare expert at the Brookings Institution. "On the one hand, in many of these positions, welfare recipients

Reuters World Service, March 8, 1997

do have a clear shot at doing a fine job in the position."

"The problem is we also are a society that prizes equity and fairness in hiring," he said. "Probably most people feel that if you have five applicants, the fairest way to pick them is to pick the one who is the best. You don't want to go to the back of the line, pick that person and put them at the front of the line."

Clinton said the government would act in "the way we want all employers to act -- demanding high performance from workers, but going the extra mile to offer opportunity to those who have been on welfare and want to do something more with their lives."

He said agencies and departments should identify what jobs welfare recipients would fill, how to recruit them and how to ensure they work hard and earn a chance at career status if they perform well for three years.

He said 2.6 million people were moved off welfare rolls to jobs in the last four years, but the task ahead will be tougher.

"Frankly, we must recognise that many of these people will be harder to reach and will need more help than those who moved off the rolls in the past four years," he said.

Clinton also asked agencies to explore and report on ways to help low-income federal employees gain access to help already available such as the Earned-Income Tax Credit, which is available to individuals with incomes up to \$25,760 and have at least one child living at home.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 09, 1997

Copyright 1997 Southeastern Newspapers Corporation  
The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN)

March 2, 1997, SUNDAY, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS, Pg. A9

LENGTH: 295 words

HEADLINE: CLINTON HOPES GOVERNMENT CAN HIRE FROM WELFARE ROLLS

BYLINE: Stephen Barr The Washington Post

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

President Clinton, who has frequently urged business leaders to employ welfare recipients, is looking for ways that the administration might do some hiring off the welfare rolls.

Because of normal turnover and the need for extra workers in the summer, the government hires thousands of park laborers, mail and file clerks, equipment operators and health care aides each year.

Administration officials say Clinton is exploring whether any of those jobs could be filled by people on welfare.

The White House is also considering having federal offices reach out to people losing welfare benefits under the reform law passed by Congress last year. Agencies, for example, could help provide day care and transportation for such workers, the officials said.

Elena Kagan, deputy assistant to the President for domestic policy, said Clinton has not made a decision.

"There are questions about how to do this," she said. "When it comes to the government and governing hiring, there are lots of rules and regulations and complexities. Part of the challenge is finding your way through those, (so) that really achieves the goal to hire welfare recipients.

"It's not an easy undertaking, but the President is committed to doing it and will do it," she said.

In theory, the government could make a significant contribution. The task of making federal workers out of welfare recipients would also present a huge challenge, however.

The government hired about 200,000 workers in fiscal 1996, but 71 percent of those were for temporary jobs. Some of these positions led to permanent civil service positions, but the White House will likely have to assess whether such part-time or seasonal work would provide sufficient income for welfare recipients.

The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN), March 2, 1997

LOAD-DATE: March 5, 1997

## LEVEL 1 - 104 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1997 The National Journal, Inc.  
The National Journal

February 8, 1997

SECTION: PEOPLE; Pg. 290; Vol. 29, No. 6

LENGTH: 1974 words

BYLINE: Louis Jacobson

BODY:

#### RECONFIGURING

William W. Bailey and Dack W. Dalrymple have opened up Bailey & Dalrymple, a Washington-based consulting firm that will specialize in federal and state lobbying and in counseling on food, drug and health-related regulatory matters. Both come from Bailey & Robinson, a now-defunct lobbying unit of New York City-based Ketchum Public Relations.

Bailey had been a founding partner and managing director of Bailey & Robinson. Dalrymple held dual senior vice president posts for Bailey & Robinson and for Ketchum Public Relations. In addition, Gregory Fisher, previously legislative and regulatory counsel with Bailey & Robinson, is joining the new firm as vice president.

#### AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Former White House associate counsel Elena Kagan has been named deputy assistant to the President for domestic policy. Kagan, who fills a long-vacant position, is succeeded by Bill Marshall, a constitutional law professor from Case Western Reserve University.

#### CORPORATE LIFE

Jennifer Minarczik has been named coordinator of political affairs in the Washington office of GTE Corp., the Stamford (Conn.)-based telecommunications company. Minarczik had been working with the Dole-Kemp campaign on behalf of the Virginia Republican Party. She succeeds Pamela Powers, who was promoted to director of congressional relations, succeeding the recently retired Russ Campbell.

#### AROUND THE AGENCIES

Army Gen. John M. Shalikashvili announced his intention to retire on Sept. 30 after serving the traditional two terms as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. No successor has been named yet. Linda Daschle is giving up her post as acting head of the Federal Aviation Administration to be a senior policy adviser with the Washington office of Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell, a Memphis (Tenn.)-based law firm. Barry L. Valentine, the FAA's assistant administrator for policy, planning and international aviation, will take over at the agency's controls for now. Two new Treasury Department hands. Kenneth J. Krupsky, who was most recently a partner at the Washington law firm of Arnold & Porter, is the new deputy assistant secretary for tax policy, succeeding Glen Kohl, who has joined a law firm in Palo Alto, Calif. Earlier, Krupsky had been an attorney in the department's office of tax legislative counsel.

The National Journal, February 8, 1997

And John Karl Scholz has been named deputy assistant secretary for tax analysis, succeeding Eric Toder, who's now teaching economics at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor). Scholz had been an associate economics professor at the University of Wisconsin (Madison).

After almost five years on the job, Richard Carlson is stepping down as president and chief executive officer of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. He has not announced plans, and there's no word on a successor.

#### POLITICAL STRIPES

New Republican National Committee chairman Jim Nicholson has tapped James C. (Chip) DiPaula as deputy chief of staff. DiPaula managed Nicholson's campaign for the post and was an assistant manager of the 1996 Republican National Convention in San Diego. Earlier, he was executive director of MacKenzie Retirement Services in Baltimore.

#### CONSULTING GAME

Patrick J. Mitchell has been named a principal in the government relations division of Sher & Blackwell, a Washington-based law firm. It's a new position, and the division's name is changing to Sher & Blackwell/Pike & Mitchell. A former chief of staff to Rep. Louise M. Slaughter, D-N.Y., Mitchell had most recently been a partner and general counsel with the Dutko Group Inc., a Washington-based lobbying firm. No word on a successor at Dutko. Lee O. Fuller joins Van Scoyoc Associates, a Washington-based lobbying firm, in a new position as senior legislative associate. Fuller had been vice president of Jellinek, Schwartz and Connolly Inc., an Arlington-based lobbying shop. No word on a successor. The Washington-based lobbying group Durenberger & Foote, Public Policy Partners, L.L.C., has hired Mary E. Hayter to a new position as senior legislative associate. A onetime senior health aide to retired Rep. Steve Gunderson, R-Wis., Hayter had most recently been a legislative assistant to Rep. Jim Ramstad, R-Minn. No word yet on a successor.

#### MEDIA PEOPLE

The Progressive, a monthly based in Madison, Wis., has opened a Washington office headed by Ruth Coniff, who had been the magazine's managing editor. Her old position will not be filled. Also opening an outpost in the capital is Mother Jones, the San Francisco-based bimonthly. Rachel Burstein, a Washington-based investigative reporter for the magazine, is heading the office, joined by senior editor Chris Orr, who held the same position in San Francisco.

Paul N. Wojcik is succeeding William A. Beltz as chief executive officer of the Bureau of National Affairs Inc., a Washington-based publisher. Wojcik, who had been president and chief operating officer, will retain his title as president. Beltz remains chairman of the board and editor-at-large.

Three former figures on U.S. News & World Report's masthead--which has been substantially revised since James Fallows became top editor--have moved on. Brian Duffy, formerly an assistant managing editor at the newsweekly, is now deputy national editor of The Washington Post. He replaces Marilyn Thompson, who was named The Post's investigative editor. Duffy's old job at U.S. News was filled by Peter Carey, who was a senior editor.



The National Journal, February 8, 1997

U.S. News's former deputy editor Christopher Ma is now vice president and executive producer of the Washington Post Co.'s digital and electronic media subsidiary, Digital Ink Co. It's a new position. Ma was not replaced. And former senior writer Ed Pound is now a reporter with USA Today. Pound was not directly replaced at U.S. News.

#### INTEREST GROUPS

Janice Weinman is the new executive director of the American Association of University Women. Weinman--most recently the executive vice president of the College Board, a New York City-based educational nonprofit--succeeds Anne L. Bryant, who left in July to join the Alexandria (Va.)-based National School Boards Association as executive director.

Sherri G. Zedd is the new director of government relations at the American Iron and Steel Institute, succeeding Jim Link, who is a new vice president in Washington for East Rutherford (N.J.)-based MWW/Strategic Communications Inc. Zedd was an associate with Neece, Cator, McGahey & Associates, a Washington-based lobbying firm, where she will not be directly replaced. During the mid-1980s, Zedd was legislative director to Rep. (and now House Speaker) Newt Gingrich, R-Ga.

#### IN THE TANKS

The National Academy of Social Insurance, a Washington-based nonpartisan research group, has hired Jill Bernstein to a new position as senior research associate. Bernstein had most recently been with the federal Agency for Health Care Policy and Research as deputy director of the Office of Planning and Evaluation as well as acting associate director of the Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research. No word yet on a successor. Thomas H. McCloud, most recently chief of staff to Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas, has been named vice president of Public Technology Inc., the research and development arm of the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties and the International City/County Management Association. McCloud, who will be in charge of research and membership programs, succeeds Arthur E. Morris, who is relocating to Lancaster, Pa. Filling McCloud's old slot in Lee's congressional office is Kathi Wilkes, who had most recently been an independent business consultant.

#### OBITUARIES

Louis E. Martin, a leader in the black community and an adviser to Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Carter, died of pneumonia on Jan. 27 in Orange, Calif. He was 84. Acting mostly behind the scenes, Martin first achieved presidential-level influence as deputy chairman of the Democratic National Committee in the 1960s.

George W. Mitchell, vice chairman of the Federal Reserve Board from 1973-76, died at Georgetown University Hospital on Jan. 25 at the age of 92. Appointed to the Fed by President Kennedy, Mitchell served there until his retirement in 1976.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 12, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 105 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1997 The New York Law Publishing Company  
The National Law Journal

January 20, 1997

SECTION: WASHINGTON BRIEF; Pg. A9

LENGTH: 264 words

HEADLINE: No. 5 Takes His Place On The Hot Seat

BYLINE: HARVEY BERKMAN

BODY:

AND PEOPLE THOUGHT Charles F.C. Ruff was crazy 19 months ago when he ended his 13-year partnership at Covington & Burling to helm the beleaguered District of Columbia's corporation counsel's office.

They hadn't seen nothing yet.

On Jan. 7, President Clinton named the former Watergate special prosecutor and U.S. attorney as his fifth White House counsel in four years, handing him the sensitive post at a moment of legal peril unusual even by Clintonian standards: Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr is expected to complete his multifaceted probe of presidential affairs soon, and the Senate is slated to open hearings in February on fund raising by the Democratic Party, the president and his legal defense fund.

Mr. Ruff will take over a revamped shop. Departing with current counsel Jack Quinn are his deputy, Kathleen M.H. Wallman, a former chief of the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau, who will become chief of staff and counselor to the National Economic Council; associate counsel Elena Kagan, a professor on leave from the University of Chicago Law School, who will become deputy director of the Domestic Policy Council, and associate counsel David B. Fein, a former New York federal prosecutor, who will become a partner at Wiggin & Dana, a 105-lawyer firm in New Haven, Conn. Associate Counsel Cheryl D. Mills has been promoted to deputy to replace Ms. Wallman.

Mr. Ruff says he didn't hesitate when asked. "When the president of the United States says he thinks you can be of assistance to him, you say, 'Yes, Mr. President,' and that's what I did," he said.

GRAPHIC: Photo, From the Frying Pan: Charles F.C. Ruff left a big-firm partnership, first to be D.C.'s corporation counsel and now to become White House counsel. AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTO

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 30, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 106 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1997 Bulletin Broadfacing Network, Inc.  
The Bulletin's Frontrunner

January 15, 1997, Wednesday

SECTION: WASHINGTON NEWS

LENGTH: 374 words

HEADLINE: Personnel: FEC; Jesse Jackson; Park Service; WH Staff.

BODY:

The W. Post (1/15, A17, Kamen) reported, President Clinton renominated John Warren McGarry to another four-year term at the Federal Election Commission. McGarry has been there since 1978. The Post said the nomination "stunned the public interest crowd, which had been lobbying the White House to name new commissioners to the FEC."

The Post added that some are nervous over rumors that Jesse Jackson is in line to become Clinton's special envoy to Africa.

The W. Post reported National Park Service Director Roger Kennedy resigned Monday pending confirmation of a successor. In line to replace him are: Mike Finley, formerly superintendent at Yosemite; Denis Galvin, associate director of the Park Service; and Robert Stanton, former director for the national capital area.

The W. Post reported that at the White House: Maria Echaveste, now head of the wage and hour division at Labor, is the favorite to take over the public liaison office when Alexis Herman goes to Labor. Kumiki Gibson, "a former civil rights prosecutor at the Justice Department and more recently counsel to Vice President Gore, is leaving to return to private practice." Paige Reffe, director of advance, has returned to practicing law and deputy Dan Rosenthal has moved up to director. In the counsel's office, Bill Marshall, a constitutional law professor at Case Western Reserve University, has replaced Elena Kagan. Cheryl Sweitzer, executive assistant to Jack Quinn, will become confidential assistant to Solicitor General Walter Dellinger.

The W. Post reported that on the Hill, James L. Clarke, a longtime House aide and most recently staff director to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, has been named vice president of government affairs for the American Society of Association Executives. Craig G. Veith, former communications director for the National Republican Congressional Committee, will become managing director of the public affairs firm American Strategies.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: June 20, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 107 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1997 The Washington Post  
The Washington Post

January 15, 1997, Wednesday, Final Edition

SECTION: A SECTION; Pg. A17; THE FEDERAL PAGE; IN THE LOOP

LENGTH: 943 words

HEADLINE: A Familiar Face for a Fresh Look

BYLINE: Al Kamen, Washington Post Staff Writer

BODY:

President Clinton, firing the first shot in a war with Congress over who is more serious about campaign finance reform, has finally nominated someone to fill a long-standing vacancy on the Federal Election Commission.

The Republicans didn't hear the salvo -- neither did most anyone else -- because the White House slipped the nomination in with a bunch of Cabinet picks and other folks sent up to the Senate on Jan. 7.

And the nominee, the new fresh blood to give renewed vigor and take a different look at campaign finance issues? Why, it's 74-year-old John Warren McGarry, renominated to another four-year term. McGarry has been there since 1978.

News of the little-noted move stunned the public interest crowd, which had been lobbying the White House to name new commissioners to the FEC.

"The president has been saying he was very serious about campaign finance reform," said Ann McBride, president of Common Cause. "One of his first tests was going to be who he nominated to the FEC. Well, he has flatly failed his first test."

She added: "What he has done has signaled that it's going to be business as usual at the FEC. The first signal is that he is going to renominate the people who have failed in their enforcement duties."

"It doesn't bode well," agreed Lisa Rosenberg, director of FEC Watch, a project of the Center for Responsive Politics.

With McGarry's nomination at the Senate, can the renomination of 68-year-old Republican Joan D. Aikens, who's been at the FEC since 1975, be far behind?

Close to Home

On the diplomatic front, scuttlebutt at Foggy Bottom has it that a senior Foreign Service type is in line to replace Peter Tarnoff as undersecretary for political affairs, the No. 3 job at the department.

Well, let's see. The senior-most are J. Stapleton Roy, now in Indonesia and likely to stay there for a little while, Frank G. Wisner, now in India and also likely to be there for a bit, and former ambassador to everywhere Thomas R. Pickering, who's conveniently located right here in Washington these days. Bet

The Washington Post, January 15, 1997

on the hometown kid.

Meanwhile, the diplo crowd is said to be a tad nervous over word that Jesse L. Jackson is in line to be Clinton's special envoy to Africa.

#### Democratic Thinking

And speaking of the State Department, a former contender for secretary, former Senate majority leader George J. Mitchell, now Clinton's emissary to the peace talks in Northern Ireland, apparently has found time to write a book of ruminations about why democracy succeeds and communism failed. The 274-page book, to be published in May, "focus[es] on the lives of Karl Marx, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Mikhail Gorbachev," according to the little blurb in the front.

The book began as a proposal by Mitchell about five years ago, says editor Philip Turner, who saw it when he was working at another publisher. But not much happened until last year.

Mitchell received a modest advance -- we're not talking big, six-figure Hollywood numbers -- for the effort, which Turner said is "seen as a major book," by the publisher. Wudda been more major had Mitchell been named secretary of state.

The title? "Not for America Alone," which it certainly isn't. The publisher, Kodansha America Inc., is a subsidiary of Kodansha International of Tokyo.

#### Parking Space

As expected, National Park Service Director Roger G. Kennedy resigned Monday pending confirmation of a successor. The body's hardly cold but the successor list includes Mike Finley, formerly superintendent at Yosemite and more recently seen chatting with Clinton at Yellowstone, where he's now in charge; Denis P. Galvin, associate director of the Park Service; and Robert G. Stanton, former director for the national capital area.

#### White House Wanderings

At the White House, Maria Echaveste, now head of the wage and hour division at Labor, looks good to take over the public liaison shop from Alexis Herman. Kumiki Gibson, a former civil rights prosecutor at the Justice Department and more recently counsel to Vice President Gore, is leaving to return to private practice but hasn't picked which firm. Paige Reffe, director of advance, has returned to practicing law and deputy Dan Rosenthal has moved up to director. In the counsel's office, Bill Marshall, a constitutional law professor at Case Western Reserve University, has replaced Elena Kagan. Cheryl Sweitzer, executive assistant to Jack Quinn, is moving to the Justice Department to be confidential assistant to Solicitor General Walter E. Dellinger.

#### Leaving the Hill

James L. Clarke, a longtime House aide and most recently staff director to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, has been named vice president of government affairs for the American Society of Association Executives. Craig G. Veith, former communications director for the National Republican Congressional Committee, has signed on as managing director with public

The Washington Post, January 15, 1997

affairs firm American Strategies.

#### On Injured Reserve

Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff director James W. "Bud" Nance is recuperating nicely after a nasty auto accident just before Christmas. Word is he's expected back soon, though he's running the show from the hospital anyway. He'd better hurry, the staff warns, because there are reports former U.N. chief Boutros Boutros-Ghali is eyeing the job.

#### Ringin' True

A recent column said Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), could have rough weather in a presidential bid in 2000 because of his divorce. But Loop Fan Mary Lois Lind of Columbia, S.C., writes to note that he's only separated. So clearly it's clear sailing for Thurmond to the White House.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 16, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 108 OF 133 STORIES

Public Papers of the Presidents

January 10, 1997

CITE: 33 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 32

LENGTH: 583 words

HEADLINE: Digest of Other White House Announcements

HIGHLIGHT:

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

BODY:

January 4

The President declared major disasters in California and Idaho and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the areas struck by severe storms, flooding, and mud- and landslides beginning December 28 and continuing.

January 5

The President and Hillary and Chelsea Clinton returned to Washington, DC, from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

January 6

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany concerning NATO expansion and relations between Russia and the West.

The President announced his intention to nominate Alan M. Hantman to be the Architect of the Capitol.

The President announced his intention to nominate Donald Rappaport to be Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Education.

January 7

In the morning, the President met with Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan in the Oval Office to discuss issues facing the 105th Congress.

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Newt Gingrich to congratulate him on winning reelection to a second term as Speaker of the House of Representatives. The President also placed calls to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, Senate Minority Leader Thomas S. Daschle, and House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt.

The President announced his intention to nominate Susan E. Trees to the National Council on the Humanities.

## Public Papers of the Presidents

The White House announced that the President will meet with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan in the Oval Office on January 23.

The White House announced that the President appointed Charles Ruff to succeed Jack Quinn as Assistant to the President and Counsel to the President early next month. The President also appointed: Cheryl D. Mills to be Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel to the President; Kathleen M. H. Wallman to be Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Chief of Staff and Counselor to the National Economic Council; and Elena Kagan to be Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council.

The President declared a major disaster in the State of Washington and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe ice storms beginning November 19 and continuing through December 4.

The President declared a major disaster in Minnesota and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe ice storms November 14-30.

January 8

In the morning, the President met with members of his economic team and Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan in the Oval Office to discuss economic issues.

January 9

In the morning, the President met with NATO Secretary General Javier Solana and Vice President Gore in the Vice President's West Wing office.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jeffrey Davidow to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation.

The White House announced that the President has appointed Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt to lead a delegation representing the United States at the inauguration of President-elect Arnaldo Aleman of Nicaragua on January 10.

January 10

The President announced his intention to appoint Ann Lewis as Assistant to the President and Deputy Communications Director.

The President announced the nomination of Sheila F. Anthony as a Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 11, 1997



LEVEL 1 - 109 OF 133 STORIES

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M2 PRESSWIRE

January 8, 1997

LENGTH: 734 words

## HEADLINE: THE WHITE HOUSE

Statement by Press Secretary

## BODY:

President Clinton today announced that Charles Ruff, currently Corporation Counsel to the District of Columbia, will succeed Jack Quinn as Assistant to the President and Counsel to the President. Mr. Quinn is expected to remain on the job until early next month.

The President made the following additional appointments: Cheryl D. Mills, currently an Associate Counsel to the President, as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel to the President;

Kathleen M.H. Wallman, currently Deputy Counsel to the President, to a newly created position as Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Chief of Staff and Counselor to the National Economic Council, where she will manage the Council's staff and serve as deputy for policy-making on key legal and regulatory issues such as telecommunications;

Elena Kagan, currently an Associate Counsel to the President, as Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council.

Charles Ruff has served since 1995 as Corporation Counsel to the District of Columbia. He is a former United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, Associate Deputy and Acting Deputy Attorney General, and Special Prosecutor in the Watergate Special Prosecution Force. From 1982 to 1995, Ruff was a partner in the Washington law firm of Covington & Burling.

"The job of counsel to the President requires an individual with a rare combination of intelligence, judgment, knowledge, experience, stature, and legal skill," the President said. "That is a perfect description of Charles Ruff. I do not know anyone better suited for to fill this position and I have no doubt that, like his predecessor, Jack Quinn, he will do a superb job."

Cheryl Mills, who has served as an Associate Counsel to the President since 1993, served as Deputy General Counsel to the President-elect during the 1992 presidential transition and a staff attorney for the Presidential Transition Planning Foundation. Prior to joining the transition, she was an associate at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Hogan and Hartson. Ms. Mills received a B.A. in economics and philosophy from the University of Virginia and a J.D. from Stanford Law School.

Kathleen Wallman, who is currently Deputy Counsel to the President, served as Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau at the Federal Communications Commission and earlier as Deputy Chief of the FCC's Cable Service Bureau. Prior to joining the FCC, Ms. Wallman was a partner at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Arnold and Porter. She received a B.A. from Catholic University and earned a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

LEVEL 1 - 110 OF 133 STORIES

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January 8, 1997, Wednesday, BC cycle

SECTION: Washington News

LENGTH: 260 words

HEADLINE: Ruff named White House counsel

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Jan. 8

BODY:

President Clinton has tapped prominent Washington attorney and former Assistant Attorney General Charles Ruff to replace outgoing White House counsel Jack Quinn, who is leaving to return to private practice. Currently corporation counsel to the District of Columbia government, Ruff served as deputy attorney general in the Carter administration and was considered at one time for the job of attorney general in the Clinton administration. Ruff also served as a special prosecutor on the Watergate Special Prosecution Force, and was a partner in the Washington law firm of Covington and Burling from 1982 to 1995. In naming Ruff, Clinton said in a written statement Tuesday that he does not know 'anyone better suited to fill this position.' Clinton also praised Quinn for doing 'a superb job' in the White House counsel's position. Quinn, who has said he wants to spend more time with his family, will remain in the position until early February. Meanwhile, Clinton also has promoted Associate Counsel Cheryl Mills to the position of deputy counsel and assistant to the president. In other areas, Clinton has appointed Deputy Counsel Kathleen M.H. Wallman to serve in the newly created position of deputy assistant to the president for economic policy and chief of staff and counselor to the National Economic Counsel. Clinton also has tapped Associate Counsel Elena Kagan to serve as deputy director of the Domestic Policy Council. ---

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LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 9, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 111 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1997 News World Communications, Inc.  
The Washington Times

January 8, 1997, Wednesday, Final Edition

SECTION: Part A; NATION; Pg. A4

LENGTH: 748 words

HEADLINE: Clinton chooses D.C.'s lawyer;  
Ruff as general counsel to take on president's problems

BYLINE: Warren P. Strobel; THE WASHINGTON TIMES

BODY:

President Clinton announced yesterday that he has selected Charles F.C. Ruff, the District's chief lawyer, to serve as his new White House general counsel.

Mr. Ruff, a lawyer with a long history of public service and occasional brushes with controversy, takes on one of the most challenging positions in Washington.

He will be responsible for coordinating the White House response to an array of ethics probes by Congress, the Justice Department and independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr.

They include the Whitewater matter, the dispute over White House handling of confidential FBI files and the debate involving donations to the Democratic Party and Mr. Clinton's legal defense fund.

Mr. Ruff brings a wealth of experience to the task, including stints as a Watergate special prosecutor, U.S. attorney for the District and a series of high-profile clients while in private practice.

In a telephone interview, he did not downplay the nature of the job.

Saying he was "honored that the president would ask me to help," he added: "Wholly apart from those [ethics] issues, the job is a daunting one . . . challenging and exciting - one that I'm sure will call on whatever skills I've got."

Some observers yesterday described Mr. Clinton's choice as a major loss for the District, which Mr. Ruff has served as corporation counsel since June 1995.

Earlier this week, after Mr. Ruff's name surfaced publicly, some administration officials questioned whether he was the right choice in view of the flap four years ago over his failure to pay taxes on his domestic help. At the time, he was under consideration for nomination as deputy attorney general.

But one official yesterday praised the choice, noting that Mr. Ruff gave up a "humongous" salary at the law firm of Covington & Burling to take up the difficult job of corporation counsel at the request of Mayor Marion Barry.

The Washington Times, January 8, 1997

"That says it all," the official said.

"Mr. Ruff will be sorely missed by the Superior Court and the citizens of the District of Columbia," said D.C. Superior Court Acting Chief Judge Paul R. Webber III. "He has been a tremendous asset to the justice community, spearheading practical and innovative initiatives addressing many of the most pressing social and legal issues facing the District."

Mr. Ruff replaces Jack Quinn, who informed the president shortly after the election that he wanted to leave for family and financial reasons. He will be the fifth White House counsel in Mr. Clinton's four years in office.

The decision means Mr. Clinton, under the guidance of incoming Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles, has reshuffled his Cabinet and named virtually all senior White House staff in time for Congress' return. The Senate opens hearings today on his nominee for secretary of state, Madeleine K. Albright.

In other moves yesterday, Mr. Clinton named Deputy White House Counsel Kathleen Wallman as chief of staff on the National Economic Council and appointed Cheryl Mills, an associate White House counsel, as new deputy in the legal shop. Elena Kagan, also an associate counsel, was named deputy to Bruce Reed, the head of the White House domestic policy council.

Mr. Ruff, 57, has been confined to a wheelchair since contracting a virus while teaching at the University of Liberia.

In private practice, he represented Sen. John Glenn, Ohio Democrat, in the "Keating Five" investigation; Sen. Charles S. Robb, Virginia Democrat, in a grand jury wiretapping probe; and Exxon Corp. in the government's criminal investigation of the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Regarding the 1993 episode, Mr. Ruff admitted he did not pay the required Social Security levies. He was assessed \$3,300 in back taxes and penalties. A similar situation was responsible in part for the withdrawal of Zoe Baird as Mr. Clinton's first choice as attorney general.

Some Republicans also were upset that Mr. Ruff arranged for law professor Anita Hill to take a polygraph test in an attempt to confirm sexual harassment allegations she made during confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

The test was conducted in Mr. Ruff's office. Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr., the Judiciary Committee chairman at the time, refused to accept the test results because the committee could not vouch for the credentials of the examiner and because the panel had "nothing to do" with ordering the test.

\* Jerry Seper and Jim Keary contributed to this report.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 8, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 112 OF 133 STORIES

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January 07, 1997 20:03 Eastern Time

SECTION: NATIONAL DESK

LENGTH: 1328 words

HEADLINE: White House Statement on Personnel Announcements

CONTACT: White House Press Office, 202-456-2100

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Jan. 7

BODY:

The following was released today by the White House:

## STATEMENT BY PRESS SECRETARY

President Clinton today announced that Charles Ruff, currently Corporation Counsel to the District of Columbia, will succeed Jack Quinn as Assistant to the President and Counsel to the President. Mr. Quinn is expected to remain on the job until early next month.

The president made the following additional appointments:

Cheryl D. Mills, currently an Associate Counsel to the President, as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel to the President;

Kathleen M.H. Wallman, currently Deputy Counsel to the President, to a newly created position as Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Chief of Staff and Counselor to the National Economic Council, where she will manage the Council's staff and serve as deputy for policy-making on key legal and regulatory issues such as telecommunications;

Elena Kagan, currently an Associate Counsel to the President, as Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council.

Charles Ruff has served since 1995 as Corporation Counsel to the District of Columbia. He is a former United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, Associate Deputy and Acting Deputy Attorney General, and Special Prosecutor in the Watergate Special Prosecution Force. From 1982 to 1995, Ruff was a partner in the Washington law firm of Covington & Burling.

"The job of counsel to the President requires an individual with a rare combination of intelligence, judgment, knowledge, experience, stature, and legal skill," the President said. "That is a perfect description of Charles Ruff. I do not know anyone better suited for to fill this position and I have no doubt that, like his predecessor, Jack Quinn, he will do a superb job."

Cheryl Mills, who has served as an Associate Counsel to the President since 1993, served as Deputy General Counsel to the President-elect during the 1992 presidential transition and a staff attorney for the Presidential Transition Planning Foundation. Prior to joining the transition, she was an associate at the Washington, D. C. law firm of Hogan and Hartson. Ms. Mills received a B.A. in economics and philosophy from the University of Virginia and a J.D. from Stanford Law School.

U.S. Newswire, January 07, 1997

Kathleen Wallman, who is currently Deputy Counsel to the President, served as Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau at the Federal Communications Commission and earlier as Deputy Chief of the FCC's Cable Service Bureau. Prior to joining the FCC, Ms. Wallman was a partner at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Arnold and Porter. She received a B.A. from Catholic University and earned a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Elena Kagan, who currently serves as an Associate Counsel to the President, is on leave from the University of Chicago, where she is a Professor of Law, specializing in constitutional law and labor law. Previously, Ms. Kagan was in private practice at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Williams and Connolly. She received her A.B. from Princeton University and an M. Phil in Politics at Worcester College, Oxford University, where she spent two years as a Daniel M. Sachs Scholar. She received her J.D. from Harvard Law School.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 7, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 113 OF 133 STORIES

## The Associated Press

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January 7, 1997, Tuesday, AM cycle

SECTION: Washington Dateline

LENGTH: 403 words

HEADLINE: Source: Clinton settles on new White House counsel

BYLINE: By RON FOURNIER, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

President Clinton named former Watergate prosecutor Charles F.C. Ruff on Tuesday to replace Jack Quinn as White House counsel, the administration's top legal troubleshooter.

Quinn surprised Clinton late last year by resigning, saying he needed to make more money for his family.

As the White House's lead attorney, Quinn coordinated the administration's response to Clinton's growing legal problems and oversaw the many legal issues that cross the president's desk. Ruff will be the fifth person to assume the job, one of the administration's toughest.

Ruff, a former partner at the Covington & Burling law firm, is the attorney for the District of Columbia. Known as a politically savvy lawyer, Ruff represented numerous political figures in his private practice, including Anita Hill, Sen. Charles Robb, D-Va., and former White House aide Ira Magaziner.

"I'm obviously honored the president has asked me to help," Ruff said.

As U.S. attorney in Washington from 1979 to 1982, Ruff supervised prosecutions of members of Congress involved in the "Abscam" bribery inquiry. He was the fourth and final Watergate prosecutor in 1975-77.

Ruff uses a wheelchair as a result of polio.

Early in the administration, Ruff was considered for several jobs, including deputy attorney general, but was ruled out for nonpayment of Social Security taxes on a semiretired household worker.

Ruff's job will be formidable: The Justice Department and Congress are investigating Clinton's fund-raising practices while Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr continues his inquiry into possible criminal wrongdoing by White House officials.

Quinn's deputy, Kathy Wallman, was briefly considered as a replacement. Instead, she will be chief of staff for the National Economic Council, the

The Associated Press, January 7, 1997

White House also announced. Cheryl D. Mills, associate counsel, will be Ruff's deputy. Associate counsel Elena Kagan will be deputy director of the Domestic Policy Council.

Quinn's post was the biggest hole in Clinton's second-term White House staff. In other personnel matters, aides said:

-Former Michigan Gov. James Blanchard has emerged as a leading candidate to head the Democratic National Committee.

-Craig Smith, an Arkansas native who was political director of Clinton's re-election campaign, is the leading candidate to be the next White House political director. Former campaign spokeswoman Ann Lewis also is in the running.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 7, 1997



LEVEL 1 - 114 OF 133 STORIES

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Reuters North American Wire

January 7, 1997, Tuesday, BC cycle

LENGTH: 348 words

HEADLINE: Clinton names Charles Ruff top White House lawyer

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

President Clinton on Tuesday named Washington lawyer Charles Ruff, a former Watergate special prosecutor, as his fifth White House counsel, the White House said in a statement.

Ruff replaces Jack Quinn, who last month announced he planned to resign from the grueling job as the top White House lawyer in order to spend more time with his family.

The White House counsel is responsible for a vast range of subjects, ranging from hammering out the president's positions on constitutional issues to ensuring that the White House is run in a lawful manner.

Since 1995 Ruff has been the corporation counsel for the District of Columbia, essentially acting as the top lawyer for the city of Washington, D.C.

Ruff has long experience in Washington, both in government as a top Justice Department official under former President Jimmy Carter and in the private sector as a partner in the law firm of Covington and Burling from 1982 to 1995.

Ruff, a polio victim who is wheelchair-bound, has also been a federal prosecutor, serving from 1979 to 1982 as United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.

Ruff, who was a candidate for deputy Attorney General when Clinton came to office in 1993, becomes Clinton's fifth White House counsel, following Bernard Nussbaum, Lloyd Cutler, Abner Mikva and Quinn.

Nussbaum resigned under pressure amid charges he had fumbled the handling of such controversial matters as the 1993 firing of seven White House travel office workers and deputy White House counsel Vince Foster's suicide later that year.

Cutler replaced Nussbaum on an interim basis and Mikva stepped down from the demanding White House counsel's job primarily because of age.

The White House also announced several other personnel changes Tuesday, naming deputy White House counsel Kathleen Wallman as chief of staff on the National Economic Council.

Cheryl Mills, currently an associate White House counsel, was elevated to deputy counsel, while Elena Kagan, also an associate counsel, was named deputy to Bruce Reed, the head of the White House domestic policy council.

Reuters North American Wire, January 7, 1997

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 08, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 115 OF 133 STORIES

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January 7, 1997, Tuesday, BC cycle

SECTION: Washington News

LENGTH: 262 words

HEADLINE: Ruff named White House counsel

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Jan. 7

BODY:

President Clinton has tapped (Tuesday) prominent Washington attorney and former Assistant Attorney General Charles Ruff to replace outgoing White House counsel Jack Quinn, who is leaving to return to private practice. Currently corporation counsel to the District of Columbia government, Ruff served as deputy attorney general in the Carter administration and was considered at one time for the job of attorney general in the Clinton administration. Ruff also served as a special prosecutor on the Watergate Special Prosecution Force, and was a partner in the Washington law firm of Covington and Burling from 1982 to 1995. In naming Ruff, Clinton said in a written statement Tuesday that he does not know "anyone better suited to fill this position." Clinton also praised Quinn for doing "a superb job" in the White House counsel's position. Quinn, who has said he wants to spend more time with his family, will remain in the position until early February. Meanwhile, Clinton also has promoted Associate Counsel Cheryl Mills to the position of deputy counsel and assistant to the president. In other areas, Clinton has appointed Deputy Counsel Kathleen M.H. Wallman to serve in the newly created position of deputy assistant to the president for economic policy and chief of staff and counselor to the National Economic Council. Clinton also has tapped Associate Counsel Elena Kagan to serve as deputy director of the Domestic Policy Council. ---

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LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 8, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 116 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1997 Bulletin Broadfaxing Network, Inc.  
The Bulletin's Frontrunner

January 6, 1997, Monday

SECTION: WASHINGTON NEWS

LENGTH: 160 words

HEADLINE: Ruff Considered For Quinn's White House Post.

BODY:

The W. Post (1/6, A15, Kamen) reported the White House faces a challenge in replacing White House Counsel Jack Quinn. The problem, "as one senior Administration official put it, is 'finding someone who's smart enough to do it and yet dumb enough to take it.' The most prominently mentioned name for the job is former US Attorney Charles F.C. Ruff." The Post said Ruff has "been a partner at Covington & Burling, so he presumably would have enough savings to cover his legal fees." Other moves in the counsel's office include a decision by associate counsel Elena Kagan, a tenured constitutional law professor on leave from the University of Chicago, to stay. Kagan was ready to return to Chicago, but new domestic policy chief Bruce Reed persuaded her to stay as his top deputy. Another associate counsel, David B. Fein, however, has departed for private practice in Connecticut.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: June 20, 1997

LEVEL 1 - 117 OF 133 STORIES

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The Washington Post

January 06, 1997, Monday, Final Edition

SECTION: A SECTION; Pg. A15; IN THE LOOP; THE FEDERAL PAGE

LENGTH: 955 words

HEADLINE: Looks Unlike America

BYLINE: Al Kamen, Washington Post Staff Writer

## BODY:

Even some of the Clinton administration diversity police were embarrassed by President Clinton's strong-arming Transportation Secretary Federico Pen a into accepting a nomination to be energy secretary -- a job for which he is notably lacking in credentials.

But the ethno-gender contortions were deemed, in the best inside-the-Beltway political wisdom, essential to pay off the Hispanic vote with two Cabinet seats.

Yet, after so much effort expended on Cabinet diversity, the Clinton White House itself remains a comfortable, mostly white boys club, with hardly an African American, Latino or Asian American in any senior job.

With the anticipated departure of public liaison office director Alexis M. Herman, the only minority in the top 25 or so senior staff members is first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's chief of staff, Margaret A. Williams -- and she may leave soon.

New Chief of Staff Erskine B. Bowles has three openings -- and may have more -- at that assistant to the president level: a political affairs director to replace Douglas Sosnik, who moved up to be "counselor"; a replacement for Herman; and one for outgoing White House counsel Jack Quinn.

Administration officials say to keep an eye on former representative Alan Wheat (D-Mo.) and the Labor Department's wage and hour division chief Maria Echaveste, both mentioned for Cabinet jobs.

But "Look Like America"? Not the senior staff.

In Like Quinn?

Speaking of Quinn, the search goes on for a replacement, and the list doesn't appear too long. The problem, as one senior administration official put it, is "finding someone who's smart enough to do it and yet dumb enough to take it."

The most prominently mentioned name for the job is former U.S. attorney Charles F.C. Ruff, who had been under consideration for the attorney generalship after Zoe E. Baird went down in flames until it was discovered he had a nanny problem himself. Ruff is public-service minded, so he might be persuaded. And he's been a partner at Covington & Burling, so he presumably would have enough savings to cover his legal fees.

The Washington Post, January 06, 1997

## Career Counselor

Job alert. There are lots of openings in the counsel's office.

Associate White House counsel Elena Kagan, a tenured constitutional law professor on leave from the University of Chicago, had two going-away parties, the movers ready to go and a class waiting for her today. But the students will have to wait. New domestic policy chief Bruce Reed persuaded her to stick around and be his top deputy.

Another associate counsel, David B. Fein, however, stuck with his original plan and has gone to private practice in Connecticut. Even before Quinn threw in the towel, he was looking for staff. Shortly after the election, Quinn asked U.S. Attorney Eric H. Holder Jr. to "make referrals and recommendations to him about individuals who might be interested in moving to the White House Counsel's Office in the new administration," according to a memo Holder sent his assistants.

"So that I can be responsive to Quinn," Holder said, "I would like to gather the names of those interested in this opportunity and will then personally forward them to Quinn. . . . (And don't worry, I won't hold it against you for expressing interest in this opportunity -- I think it's a great one!)"

Wonder what he thinks would be a bad opportunity?

## Dinner Duty

Browsing on the General Accounting Office World Wide Web page (we obviously need to get out more), we came across the Ebenezer Scrooge Memorial Memo of 1996. The Dec. 30 GAO decision memo involves a CIA request to reimburse members of the director's security detail for meals they were obliged to buy on duty.

"According to the CIA," the memo says, the security folks traveling with the director or deputy are to "remain in the line of sight of the official they are protecting. On occasion [they] must accompany one of the officials" to area restaurants and sit at nearby tables so as to be unobtrusive but in the line of sight. "Some restaurants require that members of the detail order meals while sitting at these tables. The cost of these meals, often substantial, has been borne by the individual members of the detail," the memo said, adding that the agency thinks it, not the overworked security people, should pick up the tab.

Tough luck, the GAO said. The law says no government employee can get a free meal while at "a normal duty station," except for "extreme emergency situations," and this isn't one of them. Congress can and has overridden the restriction for some agencies, but not for the CIA. So until Congress acts, the security detail pays.

## Starring Roles

John D. Bates, deputy independent counsel in charge of the Washington operation for Kenneth W. Starr, is resuming his responsibilities at the end of this month as head of the civil division in the U.S. Attorney's Office here. Bates had been on a six-month leave that somehow stretched two years. But he'll continue to oversee some matters at Starr's shop for some time. Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric A. Dubelier, who had been working on White House travel office

The Washington Post, January 06, 1997

matters for Starr, also has returned to run the terrorism section of the criminal division, while continuing to do some work in the counsel operation. Should we read something into this? Probably not.

#### Life After Legislature

Retiring Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), who chaired the Armed Services Committee back when Democrats were in the majority, has signed on as a partner in King & Spaulding's Atlanta office, with a second office here.

Outgoing Rep. Robert S. Walker (R-Pa.), who chaired the Science Committee and the House Republican Leadership, is off to be president of the Wexler Group.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 06, 1997

## LEVEL 1 - 118 OF 133 STORIES

Copyright 1996 Chicago Tribune Company  
Chicago Tribune

December 8, 1996 Sunday, CHICAGOLAND FINAL EDITION

SECTION: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT; Pg. 4; ZONE: C; Critics' choices.

LENGTH: 631 words

HEADLINE: ART: THE OUTSIDERS

BYLINE: Alan G. Artner, John von Rhein, Steve Johnson, Howard Reich, Sid Smith and Greg Kot.

BODY:

Chicago is the only art center in North America that makes a big to-do over collecting work by untutored artists. Hence, "Outsider Art: An Exploration of Chicago Collections," which opens Monday at the Chicago Cultural Center, will be one of the largest shows of its kind, including more than 200 examples of painting, drawing, sculpture and objects. The celebration continues at 78 E. Washington St., through Feb. 23.

- Alan G. Artner

CLASSICAL: SPANISH SPEAKING

This year marks the 120th anniversary of the birth, and 50th anniversary of the death, of Manuel de Falla. Concertante di Chicago will pay tribute to the great Spanish composer next week as part of a program of Spanish, Brazilian and Argentinian instrumental and vocal music. Two Falla works, "Seven Popular Spanish Songs" and Concerto for piano and five instruments, will share the concert with works by Ginastera, Villa-Lobos and Astor Piazzolla. Hilel Kagan conducts, with soloists Elena Kolganova, soprano; Patricia Risley, mezzo-soprano, and Sylvia Toran, piano. Performances are 3 p.m. Dec. 15 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at DePaul University Concert Hall, 800 W. Belden.  
312-454-3030

- John von Rhein

TV: ESCAPED CLAUS

In "Mrs. Claus" (7 p.m. Sunday, WBBM-Ch. 2), Angela Lansbury's bid to establish a new holiday classic, the North Pole's little lady feels neglected at Christmastime. So she takes the reindeer out for a little trip and crash lands in New York, where, amid a backdrop of jolly tunes by Jerry Herman ("Hello, Dolly!"), she meets plucky immigrants, women suffragists and exploited child workers. It doesn't feel classic but it is odd enough to be of interest.

- Steve Johnson

JAZZ: KURT ELLING'S BIG MONTH

Unofficially, December is emerging as Kurt Elling Month in Chicago, with the noted singer working in several intriguing contexts. He'll play with his trio Friday and Saturday at the Green Mill Jazz Club, 4802 N. Broadway (773-878-5552); he'll appear with Chicago saxophone legend Von Freeman Dec. 16 at Steppenwolf Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted St. (312-335-1650); and he'll perform



Chicago Tribune, December 8, 1996

with former Chicago saxophone titan Ed Petersen Dec. 28 at the Green Mill. As always, the brilliant Chicago pianist Laurence Hobgood will be at Elling's side.

- Howard Reich

#### DANCE: HOW SUITE

The Chicago Tribune Charities' "The Nutcracker" celebrates its 30th anniversary this season under the guidance of longtime director Larry Long and a new producer, Barbara Nunn. The holiday favorite is set to play Friday through Dec. 29 at Arie Crown Theatre. Some of the dancers scheduled to perform this year include Yan Chen, Parrish Maynard and Charles Askegaard (from American Ballet Theatre); Karyn Connell (Cincinnati Ballet); Kip Sturm (Pittsburgh Ballet); Larissa Ponomorenko and Viktor Plotnikov (Boston Ballet); and Valerie Madonia and Daniel Baudendistel (Joffrey Ballet of Chicago). 312-902-1500.

- Sid Smith

#### ROCK: TRIP-HOP INVASION

The trio Morcheeba, with its cool vocals underpinned by sensual grooves and bathed in psychedelic atmosphere, is the latest trip-hop entry from England. Like predecessors Portishead, they value songs instead of mere production dynamics, and with their bluesy guitar textures suggest influences that range far beyond the latest fashion in club culture. The co-ed group's performance Monday at Double Door is one of only four dates on their maiden North American tour. 312-559-1212.

- Greg Kot

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: December 8, 1996